Quilt chapter on verge of shutdown Bay Area group the latest in a string of closings as national office wants control.

Last spin in the Castro Venerable Record Rack store catered to DJs.

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Dive into his demimonde Rare screening of Warhol's 'Chelsea Girls' at the Castro. see Arts section



Vol. 32 · No. 15 · 11 April 2002

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Governor Howard Dean is buttonholed by Wayne Justmann, who wants to talk medical marijuana

# ean

Medical pot activists corner Vermont gov. by Cynthia Laird

ermont Governor Howard Dean, who made history when he signed legislation creating the country's first civil union mechanism for same-sex couples, was in San Francisco Monday, April 8 testing the waters for a possible presidential run in 2004. While he was commended for the landmark civil union law, he was promptly buttonholed by activists outside the Board of Supervisors chambers for his opposition to a medical marijuana bill working its way through his state's Legislature.

The Vermont medical marijuana proposal passed the Republican-controlled House and awaits action in the Democratic-controlled state Senate. The measure would protect seriously ill patients from the possibility of arrest and jail for using medical marijuana with their doctors' recommendation. Some medical marijuana advocates have hinted that Dean may try to get the Senate to kill the measure so that he wouldn't have to veto it.

After he was presented with a proclamation heralding his work on civil unions by San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno at Monday's board meeting, Dean left the chamber after making some brief remarks. Several medical cannabis activists and reermont Governor Howard

making some brief remarks. Several medical cannabis activists and re-

medical cannabis activists and re-porters were waiting for him.

"I can't support it," Dean, who's a physician, said of the Vermont propos-al. "It doesn't sound like it's workable. Essentially it legalizes marijuana."

Dean went on to say that the law

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# Closing of HIV institute parks concern by Matthew S. Bajko



# **Postcard from** the front-lines

# Bay Area lesbian in Palestinian refugee camp

by Katie Zak Szymanski

he cell phone that connects Kate Raphael to the rest of the world cuts in and out, and her e-mail account is only accessible on days that she can find a reliable power source. For now, the bombing has stopped, she told the *Bay Area Reporter* at 2 a.m. Bethlehem time on April 6, and although the explosions can be earth-shaking, she said she hasn't been too frightened because they have been limited to targets ened because they have been limited to targets a half-mile away. Raphael, 42, hails from Berkeley but has

Raphael, 42, halls from Berkeley but has been staying in a Palestinian refugee camp since March 29. She has come, she said, both as a lesbian and a lew, to take a stand against the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land. Under the United Nations Resolution 242,

the Israeli armed forces were supposed to withdraw from all the territories occupied in withdraw from all the territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem, but instead, according to anti-occupation activists like Raphael, Jewish-only roads have fractured Palestinian communities and made them dependent on Israel for water and other resources, while Israel continues to confiscate Palestinian land.

"We started out dismantling road blocks that keep people from accessing food and medical care, and we were also planting trees to replace the ones that had been uprooted," said Raphael of her first few days in the Aida

said Raphael of her first few days in the Aida camp in the West Bank. "All of that was derailed when war broke out, and now my focus essentially to try to create a buffer zone, to



Berkeley resident Kate Raphael, in an

make my presence known so that the Israeli army will be less likely to tear apart homes in this area where no resisters are present." Raphael said the families she has met have

endured the destruction of their homeland and the deaths of their family members since

and the deaths of their family includes since the uprising. And Palestinian suicide bombers have not helped the situation.

"There's a large refugee population which hasn't been allowed to repatriate, and this is the longest occupation in history. And yet they are so misrepresented and misunder-stood. They are fighting through oppression

and yet constantly portrayed as terrorists.
"I wanted them to know I'm Jewish and I don't accept or support anything that's been done in my name over here," said Raphael,

at its Davies campus in the Castro. By doing so, the Sutter-Health affiliate will also be kicking to the curb Northern Cali-

n April 30, California Pacific Medical Center will close the HIV In-stitute for Treatment and Research

also be Ricking to the curb Northern Cain-fornia's only private neuroAIDS clinic. But the director of the Western Neu-roAIDS program at Davies isn't going qui-etly. With the help of her nearly 200 patients, Dr. Dawn McGuire hopes to convince the medical center to keep the doors to her clin-ic open.

medical center to keep the doors to her clinic open.

"It is really the only specialty neuroAIDS office in Northern California for people who are not eligible for services at San Francisco General Hospital. There are neurologists who can treat patients but having a specialty in neuroAIDS is not the focus of most neurologists," said McGuire, who began her clinic in 1996. "It leaves no neuroAIDS specialist care for patients with private insurance unless I can relocate my clinic. Patients who don't have private insurance can see a doctor at San Francisco General, which has clinics about two evenings a month."

doctor at San Francisco General, Which has clinics about two evenings a month."

McGuire specializes in treating patients with devastating neurologic complications of HIV. Her patients are referred to her clinic from all over the northern region of the state. The president of Eunoe Inc., a Redwood City-based company developing an Alzheimer's treatment, McGuire volunteers about 12 hours a week to see patients at the about 12 hours a week to see patients at the

And those patients, she said, need her

And those patients, she said, need her services now more than ever.

"Among those patients whose viral loads are being suppressed successfully by new retroviral regimens, neurologic disease is increasing in prevalence," said McGuire. "With regard to my particular area of expertise, I am seeing more neurologic disease among people living longer and therefore living longer with severe neurologic disease. From my point of view, the need has never been greater."

Even if her patients could go to another doctor, she said her patients cannot afford the time it would take to be seen.

"The reason I started this clinic is HIV patients were having to wait six to eight weeks to see a neurologist. That is unacceptable for an HIV patient who needs to be di-

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FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS



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Attorney for Sharon Smith in Diane Whipple dog mauling case Sensitive to Community Issues

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## **Celebrating 90 years of living**



arry Hay, center, blows out the candles on his 90th the candles on his 90th birthday cake, assisted by attending nurse Mark Garrett, partner John Burnside, and au-thor Stuart Timmons. Some 200 well-wishers attended the April 7 party at the LGBT Community Center, enjoying memories and stories of Hay's many political ac-tivities, including being one of the original founders of the Matta-chine Society in the early 1950s.

# Wash your dog and help launch a rocket this weekend

by Katie Zak Szymanski

here is an alternative to traditional animal shelters, as Pali Boucher will tell you.
The openly HIV-positive animal activist and artist, known also

for her work with Pets Are Wonderful Support, has formed her own nonprofit, Rocket Dog Rescue, to foster adoptable dogs.

About a dozen canines live

with Boucher at any give time, all

sive behavior. Most of them tend to get along with other dogs, as well. There's Chess, the 2-year-old walker hound; Boxcar Willie, the expressive terrier mix; and Daisy Mae, a pitbull mix who was hit by a car on the freeway and picked up by strangers who rushed her to the

Rocket Dog Rescue will be hosting a dog wash fundraiser this Saturday, April 13, in the parking lot of Whole Foods Market, 1765 California Street, between Van

California Street, between Van Ness and Franklin.
For just \$10, (\$15 for longhaired dogs), your pup will be cleaned and dried in less time than it takes to do laundry. Proceeds from the dog wash will go toward publicizing the availability of rescued dogs, dog training, and educating potential adopters.
Saturday's dog wash is from noon to 5 p.m. For more informa-

noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.rocketdogrescue. com. ▼

## Stars come out for New Leaf gala

by Katie Zak Szymanski

cademy Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis, Emmy Award-winning comedian Bruce Vilanch, and the well-known circus/dinner show Teatro ZinZanni will all be present at the fifth annual gala on Tues-day, April 16 in San Francisco, to raise money for New Leaf: Ser-

vices for Our Community.

Held in Teatro ZinZanni's upscale hand-crafted traveling tent at Pier 29, the gala will feature fine food provided by Taste; wine and cocktails; a silent auction; and entertainment as provided by

Dukakis, in town for a theater production, has starred in many

performances on stage and screen, and rumor has it that she may call up her popular character of Anna Madrigal from *Tales of the City* for

Tuesday night's gala.
Vilanch, a joke-smith with clients such as Whoopi Goldberg, Bette Midler and Joan Rivers, not to mention a columnist, comedian, and regular on Hollywood Squares, is naturally expected to draw from his humor material

when he addresses the crowd.
And Teatro ZinZanni's cabaret
show includes cirque artists, contortionists, aerial artists, jugglers,
illusionists, and live music.

The gala also traditionally recognizes community individuals and groups for their work in advancing LGBT issues, and this year, honorees include the Na-

tional Center for Lesbian Rights and Sharon Smith; Lance Henderson of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation; and the grant-making organization the San Francisco Foundation.

New Leaf, formerly Operation Concern, is multi-purpose non-profit counseling center that strives to provide mental health, support, and substance abuse seres to the LGBT community in all of its diversity.

all of its diversity.

Tuesday night's gala tickets start at \$150, and the money raised will help keep services like support groups, elder outreach, and individual and group therapy at low to no cost to clients.

To reserve tickets for the gala, the feet more information call.

or for more information, call (415) 626-7000. ▼

## Girls pretend to be boys being girls Sun.

by Katie Zak Szymanski

enetically challenged drag queens, don't despair. The mostly-annual "Faux Queen Pageant," sponsored by the Klub-stitute Kollective, has been rescheduled for this Sunday, April

14, at 8 p.m. at Slim's.
The pageant, originally scheduled for last November, lost its venue and was not able to hold a 2001 contest.
But this weekend's event promises to be one the rowdiest,

raunchiest yet, as drag queens trapped in real women's bodies strut their stuff in the femmiest, most over-the-top presentation

most over-the-top presentation they can muster.

"In the early years we had people with that extra bit of crotch padding 'accidentally' showing through," said Ruby Toosday, pageant organizer. "It's become a lot more graphic in recent years."

One contestant in a very short extractive the result of the property of the

skirt recently bent down to expose her "testicles" hanging through her underpants. Another revealed a not-so-subtle phallus in the leg of her pantyhose.

The pageant has picked up steam in the women's communities, and sponsors this year include the Lexington Club, Glamarama, the Studbar, Good Vibrations, Fetish magazine, Fierce Fire Promotions, Spectator magazine, and O2 Oxygen bar.

Contestants must be genetically challenged drag queens. Usually this translates into female-born individuals, no matter how their full-time gender presentation manifests.

Points are given for drag, talent, and personality, and judges include Fairy Butch, Birdie Bob Watt, Machiko Saito, Lu Read, Adrian Roberts, and Toosday. Emcees are Deena Davenport and Laissez Le Chat, and music will be provided by DJ Jamez and the glam-rock band Moonlife.

glam-rock band Moonlite.
This is an all ages show, with a sliding scale admission fee of \$8-\$25, with no one turned away for lack of funds. Proceeds benefit the

lack of funds. Proceeds benefit the Women's Community Clinic and San Francisco Sex Information.

Those interested in entering the contest should call (415) 331–1500, extension D-I-E-T for instructions and pointers. Fake nails, big hair, and overdone makeup are encouraged. Slim's is located at 333 11th Street, at Folsom. May the best she-male impersonator win.



It has just come to our attention that the It has just come to our attention that the photo identified as activist Blackberri that ran in our February 28 issue in the story about San Francisco Pride Parade grand marshal nominees ["Parade marshal nominees named"] was not him. A current photo of Blackberri is at left. Grand marshal balloting continues through Monday, April 15. For more information on grand marshal balloting, visit www.sfpride.org. We regret the error.

# Harris resigns as CAPE

exec. director

by Matthew S. Bajko

alifornia's statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender lobbying organization announced this week it is looking for a new executive director.

After two years of heading the California Alliance for Pride and Equality, Jean Harris has decided to step down. She will stay on to assist with the transition and participate in the national search for a

new leader.
"Although it was a difficult decision, there are other opportuni-ties I have been asked to consider that I want to pursue both for mythat I want to pursue both for my-self and the community," Harris said in statement issued Monday evening, April 8. "I am proud to leave CAPE knowing that what was a fledgling grassroots organi-zation just two years ago is now one of the strongest statewide les-bian, gay, bisexual, and transgen-der organizations in the country."

der organizations in the country."
Under Harris's leadership,
CAPE has become the country's fastest growing statewide gay rights advocacy organization with donors, volunteers, and supporters throughout California, a budget of more than half a million dollars, and a database of almost 1 million supportive registered voters.

"Jean has done an outstanding job building CAPE into one of the largest statewide lesbian, gay, bisex-ual, and transgender organizations

Ramirez, co-chair of the board of directors. "While we regret that Jean decided to leave, we understand her

decided to leave, we understand her desire to move on to other opportunities and appreciate her willingness to continue working with CAPE during the transition."

CAPE's lobbying program in Sacramento has resulted in tremendous progress in the fight to ensure basic rights for all Californians, board members said. In the past four years, CAPE has successfully sponsored legislation that bans discrimination in employbans discrimination in employ-ment and housing based on sexu-al orientation, prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender in public schools, and establishes a statewide domestic

and gender in public schools, and establishes a statewide domestic partners registry.

CAPE's most recent success was working on the passage and signing into law of Assemblywoman Carole Migden's (D-San Francisco) AB25, which provides domestic partners with substantial benefits, including rights related to making medical decisions, filing wrongful death lawsuits, securing second-parent adoptions, and providing health insurance.

"CAPE, and our entire community, owe a great deal of appreciation to Jean for her leadership and dedication," stated Kathy Levinson, CAPE's other board co-chair. "Her tireless efforts and political savvy have been invaluable and will be missed," Levinson added.



Jean Harris

CAPE, with offices in Los Angeles CAPE, with offices in Los Angeles and Sacramento, now holds annual events in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Palm Springs. CAPEs recent Los Angeles dinner attracted more than 300 people, including California Governor Gray Davis, Vermont Governor Howard Dean, and Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson (D-Los Angeles).

CAPE's next executive director

CAPE's next executive director will need to work to mobilize voters to elect a governor and Legislature to elect a governor and Legislature that support equality for all Californians, observers noted. Other issues on CAPE's agenda include advancing civil unions, developing educational programs on workplace fairness, and initiating programs that support the full recognition of same-sex relationships. ▼

Individuals interested in applying for the executive director position should send a cover letter, résumé and references to CAPE, P.O. Box 1172,





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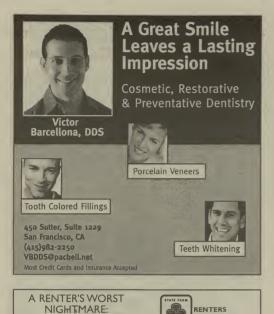
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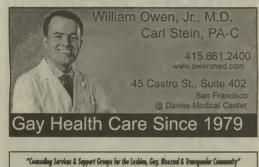
















# **Traveling road show**

by Jane Warner

guard started to

GBT center, 1800 Market Street; Transfer bar, 198 Church Street, April 6, 7:30 p.m.: While making his rounds, a security officer for the LGBT Community Center heard a man in front of the building screaming. The man was waving an alcohol bottle in one hand and making obscene gestures with the other. Directing his comments toward the center, the man shouted, "Fuck you, faggots. You're the man reason the world is a mess, you child molesters." The

approach the suswaved the bottle over his head like waved the bottle over his nead like he was going to throw it, and threatened, "Fuck you, faggot." The suspect then walked over to a parked car and kicked the rear passenger door, leaving a large dent. The guard cautioned the man to leave and as the suspect man to leave and as the suspect walked westbound on Market, the security officer called the police and reported the incident, stating that the suspect was a white male with stringy long black hair hang-ing in front of his face, wearing all

A short time later, police received a call from Safeway security about a man they had in custy about a man they had in custody. When police arrived, four women told them that as they were leaving the Transfer bar, a man with long stringy black hair started to follow them, yelling names like "dykes" and "child molesters." The women tried to calm the man down but he became more angry, saying, "Lesbians are going to hell." The man referred to them with male pronouns, directing his anger toward one of the women, saying, "He's responsible for turning out our women." The women tried to ignore their ha-rasser but as they were getting into their vehicle the suspect ran up to their vehicle the suspect ran up to one of the women, yelled "Fuck-ing faggot," and then kicked her in the face, breaking her glasses and fracturing her nose. Angry, the four women got out of the car.
When the suspect saw this, he

began to run toward Safe way's parking lot. The women chased their assailant into the store and cornered him until security placed him in custody. The guard for the center was transport-ed to Safeway where he positive-ly identified the Punishment

man as the same suspect who had

threatened him earlier.

The 39-year-old suspect was taken to Mission Station and booked for a hate crime, aggravated assault, exhibiting a deadly weapon in a threatening manner, and mali-cious mischief to a vehicle.

#### Double trouble

Double trouble

200 Hartford, April 6, 2:38 a.m.;
14th and Dolores, April 6, 4:20
a.m.: Two men walking down the
street were approached from behind by two other men. One of
the men felt a tugging on his coat
and turned around to see a black
revolver. "Give me all you got,"
one suspect demanded. Fearing
for their safety, both victims emptied their pockets. After handing
over a couple of credit cards,
about \$100, and a cell phone, the
victims were told to turn around. victims were told to turn around. One of the men was then slugged on the back of the head. The suspects, described as African American men in their 20s, ran toward 20th and Castro streets

A couple of hours later, two A couple of hours later, two women were walking eastbound on 14th toward Dolores when they were startled by a man who approached them from behind. As they turned to look they saw the man was pointing a black revolver. "Give me your purse," he demanded, after cocking the gun. The women threw their bags to the sidewalk. The suspect quickly the sidewalk. The suspect quickly scooped them up and ran west-bound on 14th Street. Inside the bound on 14th Street. Inside the handbags were IDs, credit cards, cell phones, house keys, and about \$160 in cash. The suspect was described as African American, 5 feet 7 inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, 17-23 years old, cleanshaven, wearing a dark wind-breaker and dark maris and is be. breaker and dark pants, and is be-lieved to be one of the suspects in-volved in the earlier robbery on Hartford Street

#### High treason

Market and Noe, April 5, 7:35 p.m.: While driving in a marked patrol car two officers kept smelling a strong odor of marismelling a strong odor of mari-juana. Stopped at a traffic light, they noticed puffs of smoke com-ing from a yellow Volkswagen bug in front of them, and saw the rear passenger pass a glowing object to the front passenger in the car. Officers made a stop, and the driver said he was sorry, but it was-rithin who, was smoking the mar-thin who, was smoking the mar-

n't him who was smoking the mar-ijuana, it was his friends. Surprised by their friend's indictment, the passengers handed over a small bud of marijuana. When asked for his license and registration, the driver again said he was sorry, but he did not have any, as he had just recently moved to California. The officers told him they were

and he was sorry, then placed him under arrest and towed his car to the city impound. His passengers were admonished and released at the scene.

# **Knoller fires Nedra**

by Ed Walsh

an Francisco prosecutors may be in for a tough battle against the new lawyer hired by Marjorie Knoller, the woman convicted last month of seconddegree murder after her dogs mauled Diane Whipple to death last year.

It was made public this week that Knoller will replace contro-versial and flamboyant attorney Nedra Ruiz with veteran appellate attorney Dennis Riordan.

"It's the smartest thing she's ever done," commented Peter ever done," commented Peter Keane, the dean of the Golden Gate University Law School. hyperbole – is the most talented appellate lawyer in the state of Cal-ifornia, probably among the top in the United States," added Keane. "If I were a bookie, I'd bet my house against a doughnut that at a mini-mum, he'll get the second-degree

murder charge reversed."

Because Knoller was with her two Presa Canario dogs during the deadly hallway attack on Whipple, her neighbor, she was charged and convicted of second-degree murder. She and her hus-band, Robert Noel, were also convicted of involuntary manslaugh-ter and keeping a mischievous an-imal that killed a person. Sentenc-ing is scheduled for May 10.

Knoller faces 15-years-to-life and Noel faces a four-year sentence

Although hiring a different attorney to handle an appeal is common, it is unusual for the trial attorney to be let go before sentencing. A hearing over a defense mo-tion to grant the couple a new trial is scheduled for Friday, April 12. At that time, Riordan will formally ask San Francisco Superior Court Judge James Warren for permission to take over the case. Riordan stated in court filings that he won't stay on the case unless the judge delays sentencing, a move prose-cutors are expected to strongly op-pose. Riordan wrote that he needed more time to review the case.

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## **Gay Sperm Donors Wanted by Lesbians Lesbians Want Donors to Play "Uncle"**

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GaySpermBank.com

# Gibson to head new gay men's health cent

by Matthew S. Bajko

fter nearly a decade with the Stop AIDS Project, Steve Gibson has announced he is leaving the agency to direct a new gay men's health initiative.

Gibson, who first joined Stop AIDS as a volunteer in 1994 and last year served as interim co-ex-ecutive director, will oversee a new gay men's health center set to open this fall in the Castro. He has

open this fall in the Castro. He has held the position of program director at the agency for three years and will step down on April 19.
"Personally, I felt like it was time to reinvent myself. I think I have done really well at Stop AIDS," said Gibson. "I wanted to take on a new set of challenges. I love the fact this is a small grasse. love the fact this is a small, grass-roots-focused project. We really want to meet gay men where they are at and talk to them about a va-riety of things in their life that af-fect their health."

While the new initiative has yet to even be formally named, a community advisory group called Castroguy's has been meeting and surveying men about what they would like to see from the new initiative. The Stonewall Project has spear-headed the effort, and received

neaded the effort, and received \$200,000 in funding from both the Dupont company and the city's Department of Public Health.
"There is a feeling on a lot of people's part in looking at what has been happening with increases in HIV infection rates and STD [sexually transmitted disease] rates that we need to be creative and think of something new and think of something new and think of something new and and think of something new and innovative in terms of all of these issues," said Michael Siever, Stonewall's director, "Not that the work that has been done isn't



by Matthew S. Bajko

y simply going out to eat, diners can take part in a new fundraiser for the Stop AIDS

Project.
Called "Dining Out for Life,"
the event will take place Tuesday,
April 16. Restaurants taking part
will donate 25 percent of their
food sales that day to the AIDS
agency, known for its cutting-edge
and controversial HIV prevention
programs

programs.

Castro area restaurants signed up include: Anchor Oyster Bar, Blue, Harvey's, Due Ragazzi, Grub, La Focaccia, Leticia's, Luna Piena, Ma Tante Sumi, Red Grill, and Restaurant La Moone.

After having dinner, diners can then head over to Harvey's in the Castro for an after-party where 25 percent of all food and drink purchases will be donated to the

For more details and a list of all participating restaurants, visit www.diningoutforlifesf.com.  $\blacktriangledown$ 



Steve Gibson

valuable and important, but it seems something new is called for at this point."

The new program will move away from concentrating solely on HIV and AIDS prevention, and instead provide a more holistic approach to gay men's health. It

tion, and general health concerns prevalent in men such as testicu-lar and prostate cancer.

These are issues a lot of gay "These are issues a lot of gay men have but are not talking about. The surface presentation is everybody is going to circuit parties and everyone is happy," said Siever. "But if you scratch the surface you find not everyone is happy, not everyone is taking care of their health."

While he has yet to officially according to the property of the parties of of the parties

of their health.

While he has yet to officially accept the job offer, Gibson said as soon as he signs a contract he could begin the new job as early as May 1.

His first two priorities will be securing a location and determining what to call the new program.

curing a location and determining what to call the new program.
Currently, negotiations are under way to lease the former Stadtlanders Pharmacy Wellness Center on 18th Street. If all goes well, Gibson said he hopes to unveil the name and secure the location by Pride weekend in June and open in time for the Castro Street Fair in the fall.

Steven Tierney, the city's direc-

"Not that the work that has been done isn't valuable and important, but it seems something new is called for at this point."

will be the first time such a program has been offered in the heart of the Castro.

of the Castro.

"People wanted gay men's health services in the Castro in a non-clinical setting. For a variety of reasons people are not going to clinics. This will make services available to gay men where there is not just a focus on HIV but looks at the larger issue of gay men's health," explained Gibson.

The city's Castroguy's Spring Cleaning program, an effort to have gay and bisexual men get tested every six months for STDs that was launched this month, is one example of the kind of cam-

one example of the kind of campaign the new initiative will coordinate. Other initiatives likely will deal with drug and alcohol use, feelings of loneliness and isola-

tor of HIV prevention, said Gibson's experiences working in HIV and AIDS prevention, fundraising and community contacts will serve him well in his new role.

"He has been around the community long enough to know what the needs are," said Tierney.
"He is exactly the kind of renaissance man we need to bring all those aspects of the community together." together.

together."
As a tribute to his time at Stop
AIDS, Gibson has organized a
benefit going-away party on
Wednesday, April 24 at Harvey's
Castro, with proceeds donated to
the project. The party costs \$5 and
will be from 8 to 11 p.m. The festivities include entertainment, raffle prizes and a free Chammagne fle prizes and a free Champagne toast. ▼







## BAY AREA REPORTER

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# A tale of two governors

he Democratic governors are coming out of the woodwork: last month, we had an interview with California Gov-ernor Gray Davis; and this week, Vermont Governor Howard Dean, of civil union fame, was in town as he flirts with whether or not to run for president in 2004.

Davis faces a re-election campaign this November. His opponent, the ultra-conservative Bill Simon, won the GOP primary in part because Davis, a smart politician, spent millions of dollars destroying the more moderate Republican candidate, former Los Ansales Marse Pichard Biodon. geles Mayor Richard Riordan. The result is that Davis, a centrist, gets to campaign against the anti-gay, anti-abortion, anti-gun control Simon in a state in which most residents aren't supportive of Simon's conservatism.

When Davis spoke with us, he revealed that a staff working group would soon begin reviewing Vermont's civil union law. While Davis pointedly took no position on the issue, legislators and others who support civil unions for same-sex couples hailed the news as a positive first step.

So do we

So do we.

It's been obvious to us that Davis governs from the center, and most of the time that means incremental steps on the road to equality for the LGBT community. But over equanty for the EGB Continuity, But over the course of his first term, Davis has signed significant legislation expanding rights af-forded to LGBT state residents, and just last week he issued an executive order in an ef-fort to help same-sex survivors of those killed

fort to help same-sex survivors of those killed in the terrorist attacks secure compensation from the federal government's program.

Simon, on the other hand, said right after his primary victory that he would not have signed AB25, Assemblywoman Carole Migden's landmark legislation that extends greater equal rights to domestic partners. That tells us that should he be elected, Simon most assuredly would veto future legislation concerning equal rights for gays. Obviously, Simon is not the candidate for LGBT Californians.

LGBT Californians.

Dean, who announced last year that he would not seek re-election when his term expires in January 2003, has toyed with the idea of a presidential run in what's expected to be a crowded Democratic field. His courageous fight for the civil union bill a couple of years ago no doubt resonates with many LGBT voters. On the other hand, Dean's op-

position to medical marijuana definitely tar-nishes him in the eyes of many prospective progressive voters. Medical marijuana conprogressive voters. Medical marijuana con-tinues to be a popular issue, as more states are embracing the idea despite the federal government's heavy-handed efforts to derail the use of marijuana by people who suffer from AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Since Dean is a medical doc-

tor, it's hard for us to fathom his position on a medical marijuana bill in Vermont that was passed by the Republican-controlled House. When he was in San Francisco, Dean spoke in vague terms about how he views the bill as "legal-**Editorial** 

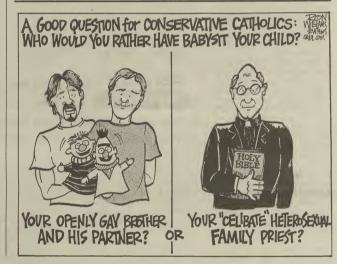
izing marijuana" – when from what we've seen, the legislation would mere-ly protect those who use it for medicinal purposes. As Supervisor Mark Leno pointed out to Dean in a meeting, medical doctors are trying to conduct more research around medical cannabis, but oftentimes the feder al government hamstrings the needed research. Some opponents of medical mari-

juana claim that drug use among young people would increase; but there has been no evidence that that has happened in California since Proposition 215's passage in 1996.

In a meeting with Treasurer Susan Leal and others that took place after Dean was cornered by local medical marijuana activists, he avoided the subject and instead spoke about civil unions. While some proponents see the Vermont civil union law as "separate but equal" and continue to push for gay marriage, Dean made it clear that he sees gay marriage as a "loser" issue. While he would like the federal Defense of Marriage Act repealed, he believes civil union is the only way to grant same-sex couples most of the state rights married

sex couples most of the state rights married

As the two governors chart their course in the months ahead, it would behoove LGBT voters in this state to get behind Davis and if Dean is serious about running for president, he needs to rethink his stance on medical marijuana.



# A stark interrogation

by Rev. Dr. Penny Nixon

veryone lies about sex. In this respect, the Catholic Church is no different. Yet, the Catholic Church is expert at naming and categorizing sin. The Catholic Church has power over its priests in the most intimate of matters. Whenever and wherever intimate of matters. Whenever and wherever those with-power protect each other and collude to prey on those with no power, suffering abounds. This has the propensity to be then replicated in the lives of some priests who end up preying on the least powerful—the most vulnerable—the children. Children and young teens, who seeking heaven, often experience what can best be described as hell.

experience what can best be described as hell. When religious law supersedes life itself, something is horribly and fundamentally twisted. This was vividly illustrated recently in Saudi Arabia. The "religious police" prevented male firefighters from rescuing teenage girls from their high school because the girls weren't "properly covered." The girls burned to death while police and firefighters watched. Any religious institution's refusal to protect the vulnerable from religion itself differs in degree, but not in kind. The crisis is a moment of truth. The double-edged sword of sexual denial and sexual

ble-edged sword of sexual denial and sexual ble-edged sword of sexual denial and sexual regulation has pierced the heart of the Catholic Church. The repression of sexuality and its shrouded secrecy has always played itself out in the most destructive ways, from the home to the church to the state. The conspiracy of silence includes women who have no voice, priests in the Vatican who die of AIDS, and young girls in Africa who cannot demand sex with condoms – the list is as endless as the silence is deep. endless as the silence is deep

As this crisis proves, it is neither possible nor expedient to untangle the dynamics of sexual repression, the deep roots of homophobia, the religious reinforcement of phobia, the religious reinforcement of misogyny, or the abuse of power. At the same time, the issues of homosexuality, heterosexuality, gender, celibacy, and pedophilia must be separated. The conflation of homosexuality and pedophilia is a tired fallacy.

At the heart of this entire crisis, there is but one main issue: we must create a world in which children – hows and risks. Find seffety and

boys and girls – find safety and wholeness in their faith communities, in their schools, and in their homes. We must keep this at the center of all of our discus-**Guest Opinion** 

sions of the current crisis.

I am proud to be a les-

I am proud to be a lesbian and a minister.
Those of the cloth span the spectrum from the extraordinary to the mundanely average to the downright sinister. The acts of sexual abuse and misconduct coming to the fore-front of the Catholic Church are particularly heinous when the perpetrators are protected by their own and when the whole event is covered in religious hypocrisy – the worst combination possible.

It should not be considered remarkable or a rarity when bishops applopize for the sex-

a rarity when bishops apologize for the sex-ual abuse committed in the church's name in as system that thrives on penitence. Apologies don't erase the pain, confusion, betrayal, or a host of other ills writ large on the bodies and souls of far too many. But apologies combined with remedial action and accountabil-

ity from the church may help the healing. The Catholic Church is far from being all bad. In fact, it does far more good than is

acknowledged. Unfortunately, these grievous trespasses make us question all the good done by religion in general and by the Catholic Church in particular. It has been said that the last temptation is to do the right thing for the wrong reason. The church has been attempting to come forward. The wrong reason would be for ward. The wrong reason would be for money, reputation, or fear. The right reason would be a desire to return to what true religion has always been about – love, integrity, community, truth, and solidar-

ity with the poor and powerless.

The stark interrogation light shines on the Catholic Church.

The Inquisition has turned on itself. All religions and religious institutions must radically and fiercely reex-amine what we are actual-

amine what we are actually creating together in the world. Now more than ever, all religious people, our institutions, and our critics are compelled to name the ways we dehumanize each other, whether through the violence of war, the secrecy of abuse, the politicization of belief, or a host of other social habits. Best case scenario: humanity, we the people, begin to exact from ourselves, as well as the church, an ethic that affirms life and seeks tikkun olam, the healing of the world.

The Rev. Dr. G. Penny Nixon is senior pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, a 32-year old queer spiritual community built on a foundation of being "A House of Prayer for all People." Sunday worship services are held at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

## LETTERS

#### Thanks to Carole Migden

Thank you so much for getting a grant for the Positive Resource Center ["Migden announces grant to AIDS agency," April 4].

I have been a resident of San Francisco since 1979

and I personally, as well as many of my friends of mine, have used the services of the AIDS Benefits Counselors before it became the Positive Resource Center, and continue to use the services today.

The agency provides invaluable services when it

The agency provides invaluable services when it comes to figuring out going on disability, and benefits and resources that are available as well as currently assisting with return to work programs, working with the Department of Rehabilitation, the state Employment Development Department, and many other agencies. Also, they now are helping with a little-known terrifying thing going on with people out on disability due to HIV: having their private insurance company — whose plan they had paid into for long term disability — being abruptly cut off.

Anyone who has had to deal with any of the abovementioned situations knows how PRC has helped alleviate the nightmare of going through that process alone.

leviate the figures.

They are such a needed organization. I am so glad they received your help and I hope they are around for a long time to come.

Thank you so much.

David Fink

David Fink San Francisco

#### Thanks from DSCS

Thank you. It is far too rare that you hear these Thank you. It is far too rare that you hear these words from a community organization. Most non-profits, including our own Dolores Street Community Services, often ask you to give. In this economy, the need, and therefore the appeals, are increasing and getting louder. But as DSCS celebrates 20 years of service to San Experience in the years of service to San Franciscans in the Castro and Mission neighborhoods, it is time to say thanks. Mailstrom

is time to say thanks.

Your support of our services has made a significant difference. While many nonprofits are reporting huge slumps in giving, DSCS has met our fundraising goals for most areas of private giving. The support of our community—your support — has made it possible for us to continue to shelter the homeless and to house people living with AIDS. Since September 11, it has been harder to raise private funds as resources went elsewhere. We recent. private funds as resources went elsewhere. We recently received special funding from the California Endowment through the United Way of the Bay Area and from the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund specifically because they realized that basic services such as shelter and housing need extra support this

year. Thank you.

We also received a terrific gift from an anonymous donor who gave through the San Francisco Founda-

tion. Thank you.

Many have given in-kind gifts or have volunteered

Many nave given in-kind girts or have volunteered countless hours of service. Thank you.

And of course, thanks to the *Bay Area Reporter* for its coverage of our work and support.

Each gift, no matter the size, is precious to us, and makes a major difference in the lives of the otherwise homeless men and women we serve.

Please ion us for our 20th anniversary celebration.

Please join us for our 20th anniversary celebration on April 25 from 6-9:30 p.m. at Galeria de la Raza. For information on the event or on our programs call (415) 282-6209, ext. 22

Bob Nelson, Executive Director Dolores Street Community Services San Francisco

#### Time for a change

I wanted to write in support of the letter "If it walks like a duck..." from Gustavo Serina, published in the March 28 edition of the B.A.R. It's as if Mr. Serina has been listening in on the conversations I've had with friends over the past few months. Mr. Serina clearly summarized the growing concerns that I feel about the "backwardly focused" agenda of the Ammiano machine. Don't forget to vote in the upcoming elections ... it time for a change!

Richard Robertson

#### Home Depot as 'playground'

All my friends, neighbors, and co-workers agree with Gustavo Serina [Mailstrom, March 28]. Tom Ammiano and Tommi Avicolli Mecca seem to be stuck in the Sixties. However, I'll still vote for Uncle Tom ... unless he prevents Home Depot from moving into that eyesore on Bayshore. The city needs the 250 jobs and the revenue, and the LGBT community needs a new playground.

Jon Denning

#### Mideast crisis

I have come to the conclusion that the most basic cause for the continuation of violence is the psychological condition of Jewish Israelis who harbor the

idea that a Jewish homeland is necessary protection from religious persecution, an idea which was the result of the Nazi atrocities.

I have heard many times from Jewish Israelis and Jewish Americans that the "return of Palestinians to Israel would destroy the Jewish state," "it would make Israel another Arab state," etc. The refusal to discuss an issue creates the climate in which violence can

It is my opinion that another most basic cause of It is my opinion that another most basic cause of the confusion in this situation is the psychological condition of the U.S. and Europe regarding the Holocaust, which includes deep feelings of shame and guilt that they did not stop the Nazis sooner. Now it is difficult for us psychologically to acknowledge the allegations of crimes by early Jewish settlers against the native Palestinians. native Palestinians.

The international community's misunderstanding of the issues has allowed this situation to fester for

of the issues has allowed this situation to fester for so long. In addition, the Soviet backing of the PLO buried the issue in the West even deeper.

If the Palestinian case, which dates back 50 years, can be understood clearly and through nonviolence by the international community, justice regarding these issues will be easy to reach through legal channels and/or diplomatic efforts.

Fear and anger, two very difficult aspects of the human condition, are at work here. I have tried to talk to parties from both sides, and you have the intense fear from the Israeli side, and the anger from the Palestinian side, both preventing the meaningful dia-Palestinian side, both preventing the meaningful dia-logue which could end the political situation. The issue of the current violence against innocent

people is wholly and completely separate from the Palestinian grievances regarding the "right of return." The two should not be confused

by the false doctrine of revenge.

The Israelis must acknowledge the crimes of early Jewish settlers. The Palestinians are going to have to understand the deep-seated Jewish fears related to the Holocaust in order to be able find the forgiveness which will allow them to talk rationally, without malice or anger, about what happened back in the 1940s in Palestine.

Jim Boeger

Jim Boeger San Francisco

#### A 'twister of history'

As a twister of history, Dale Carpenter follows in the missteps of ex-President Reagan. Now he claims, "The black civil rights movement did not fight to protect people from age discrimination." [OutRight, April

4]. Since his fellow reactionaries opposed the civil rights movement, perhaps he hasn't bothered to study it, and cannot grasp the breadth and depth of its social vision. Black leaders, and allied activists of all colors, spoke out on many issues of justice and freedom, not just race. Civil rights for all people naturally included civil rights for elders.

In 1971, as a warm-up preceding the second White House Conference on Aging, black and non-black activists held a "Black House Conference on Aging." This progressive coalition included Maggie Kuhn's "Consultation of Older Persons." Her group later renamed itself the Gray Panthers, memorializing the original Black Panther organization of Lowndes County, Alabama. County, Alabama.

County, Alabama.

In his ongoing jihad against TG persons, Carpenter has smeared the Stonewall generation, the Gay Liberation Front, the civil rights movement, and the Gray Panthers, so far. Who's next?

In the Nixon era, Carpenter's Republican Party recruited white-supremacist ex-Dixiecrats to take over its Southern wing. Like J. Edgar Hoover before him, this bigot proves that even a queer can oppose human liberation.

San Francisco

## Gay Games controversy

Jim Provenzano's March 28 column titled "Check mates," in which he discusses an article I wrote for Outsports.com regarding a controversy surrounding Montreal's winning 2006 Gay Games bid, leaves me disturbed about Provenzano's own journalistic prac-

In attempting to discredit the article I wrote, Provenzano questions my motives and says that "per-haps Zeigler's having once been on the board of the Los Angeles bid committee has something to do with

It."

I have never been a part of any bid committee, in Los Angeles or otherwise, and am not a part of any organization with anything to gain from winning that bid. Provenzano's statement has no thread of truth

whatsoever.

I am also disturbed by the fact that Provenzano spent several hundred words attacking an article I wrote, yet never took the time to contact me to ask questions about the article (though he found the time to contact the secretary of the Federation of Gay Games, who supports Provenzano's perspective).

I know the Bay Area Reporter has a long history of

next page

#### GAY MEN'S JUNGIAN/SHAMANIC GROUP NOW FORMING

re-discover re-awaken re-member re-connect

Rodney Karr, Ph.D

415-931-193

Receive creative support and comradery within a group of spiritually-minded Gay men who are committed to being more present in body, mind and feeling. Join others in an ongoing process facilitated to illuminate the connectedness between self, community and nature.

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## **Mailstrom**

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solid reporting – I'm sorry that Provenzano's own practices have undermined that here.

Cyd Zeigler Jr. West Hollywood, California

[Jim Provenzano responds: Cyd Zeigler's Out-sports.com co-founder, Jim Buzinski, was a 2001 dele-gate to the federation, but asserts that it had no bearing on their articles about Gay Games. I seriously regret the

conjusion.

As to the federation secretary calling the statements in his article "wrong," how is that any worse than generously quoting disgruntled bid losers who accuse the Montreal bidders of "bribery?"]

#### Issues to address

People are already starting to announce their can-didacies for supervisor for District Eight (which in-cludes the Castro). There are two questions I hope

they all will address:

What are you going to do about the drunks, junkies, and drug dealers in the Castro?

Will your candidacy be independent of the Brown machine and the Ammiano machine?

Arthur Evans San Francisco

#### Hall supporters buoyed

Your satute soothsayer, Wayne Friday, mentioned Supervisor Tony Hall among the possibilities in the 2003 mayoral race ("SF mayor, state Senate seats up for grabs," Our Man Friday, March 28]. This is the very first such reference (concerning Supervisor Hall) from any LGBT publication. So highly interesting – considering the scope of your readership and the accuracy of Friday's predictability. Supervisor Hall's supporters have become buoyed up recently by his successful handling of the Harding Park-Lake Merced restoration solution. The District 7 supervisor's restoration solution. The District 7 supervisor's March 23 rally on the steps of City Hall that intro-duced his plan wherein low-income tenants might become property owners (HOPE), met with thunder-ous response. Supervisor (Assemblyman, probably) Leland Yee's enthusiasm seemed to include his impri-

The 2003 mayoral race promises to be anything but dull. Hold on, folks, we're in for a rollicking ride.

Bill J. Johnson San Francisco

#### Seniors seek porn

The third annual Porn Sale, a benefit for the San Francisco Prime Timers (formerly the G-40 Plus Club), Francisco Prime Timers (formerly the G-40 Plus Club), is coming soon. Now we are asking for donations of porn to sell. Here is the opportunity to weed out your collection, eliminate things you don't really care for or want or use, make room for additions, or do some spring cleaning, and help a 30-year-old nonprofit [501(c)3] organization. During the sale videos sell for \$3; books, magazine, 8 and 16 mm films, and calendars sell for \$1; and toys (like dildos and pumps), puzzles, posters, etc. are individually priced. The sale will take place on Saturday, June 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the garage at 3507-23rd Street, between Valencia (San Jose) and Guerrero. To make a donation, arrange for a pickup or one or two items or a truckload, or for more pickup or one or two items or a truckload, or for more information about the sale or the Prime Timers, call me at (415) 648-8678.

Arthur Hurwith

#### Dissing Oscar reports

I hope that next year when the Bay Area Reporte: I hope that next year when the Bay Area Reporter assigns its pre-Academy Awards articles, the paper will try for a little intelligence. The March 21 articles by Matthew Kennedy ["Naked and gold"] and Tavo Amador ["They kissed off Oscar!"] lacked maturity and/or scholarship.

I had to chuckle when Moulin Rouge's "pukey" sets (Kennedy's fifth-grade word) won an Oscar. After seeing Monster's Ball a few days before the Academy Awards show. I had to hold my rage over Kennedy's

ing Monster's Ball a few days before the Academy Awards show, I had to hold my rage over Kennedy's smug condescension about how Halle Berry was "too beautiful" to play "a woman beaten down to society's lowest rung." When I read that remark to my sister — who used to work for a government program that dealt with poor women — she said that not only was Kennedy totally illogical and naive, he was insulting all women everywhere.

Kennedy totally illogical and naive, he was insulting all women everywhere.

As for Amador, when he tries to write an article about Oscar history, he needs to read books that most scholars depend on for information. Yes, MGM mogul Louis B. Mayer did "punish" Clark Gable for his outrageous salary demands by lending him to Columbia (which Gable compared to being sent to Siberia) for Frank Capra's It Happened One Night. But if Amador had read Capra's autobiography, The Name Above the Title, he would have never said Capra "contacted" Mayer. The negotiations for Gable were be-

tween Mayer and the equally-odious Harry Cohn, Capra's boss, who had to put up with Mayer's insult-ing line about how "stars don't like changing their ad-dress from MGM to Gower Street (Columbia's "Poverty Row" address).

Also, Amador erred with his comments about Terms of Endearment. For one thing, the film won the Best Picture Oscar for 1983, not 1978. Second, Jennifer Jones was not James L. Brooks's first choice for nifer Jones was not James L. Brooks's lifst choice the role, as Amador claims. According to both *Inside Oscar* by Mason Wiley and Damien Bona and the *Los Angeles Times*, Jones bought the rights to *Terms* from the author, Larry McMurtry. She wanted Brooks, the mastermind behind *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, to direct, with her in the starring role. But, according to Wiley and Bona, Brooks "began to envision a movie without Jennifer Jones" and persuaded Paramount to but the rights from loss.

buy the rights from Jones. The books by Capra and Wiley and Bona can be found in most bookstores. The authors are quoted frequently by people who care about film scholarship and are not interested in fifth-grade journalism.

> Will Snyder San Francisco

#### Why I think HIV is on the rise

My husband is dead. There, I said it! He died eight months ago of a sudden heart attack while we were walking on a beach in San Francisco. I was married and walking on a beach in San Francisco. I was married and though I had read in the local and national gay rags that HIV infection rates were continuing to be a problem, I really did not follow the problem. After all, in my married world, my life was complete. My focus was my husband, our health, and our well-being. But he did die, and due to his death, I found myself cataputted into a world of sadness, depression, and loneliness. In a very short time, I realized why HIV was on the rise.

They call the period following the death of someone close to you the "grieving process" and for the first time in my adult life, I felt this intense need to be with someone – anyone – for comfort and to feel connected. So unsettled were those feelings at the time that I allowed myself to be involved with people I did not know, which at times led to situations that would involve sex, which in turn led to me having to disclose

volve sex, which in turn led to me having to disclose my HIV status. When I look back, all I really wanted was to be held and not feel scared. Those experiences was to be held and not feel scared. Those experiences ironically have become valuable for the content of this letter. They also became a real eye opener for me with the realization on how quite varied we are in our views on gay life in general.

HIV infection is on the rise for a variety of reasons. For example, one of the men I met felt that he was immune to possible infection, while another was very aware of possible transmission and would only date those of same HIV status. Then there was the young

aware of possible transmission and would only date those of same HIV status. Then there was the young man who could never even begin to envision himself as becoming an older mature gay man retired in his 60s with graying hair. He would rather take the risk sexually and be exposed and live a shorter life while he is young and beautiful.

The most interesting revelation I have found is that things have changed with the mentality of younger gay men in their 20s versus older gay men (like me) in their 40s. The difference being that younger gay men today seem to think of HIV as more of a nuisance rather then the death sentence it ultimately ends up being, I also realized that most of these guys have not being. I also realized that most of these guys have not seen the amount of death that I, and so many of my peers, have experienced. It would appear they believe that HIV is in fact treatable and curable with the medications that are available.

ications that are available.

Why do some gay men take the risk and have unsafe sex? Do we blame the behavior on society as a whole? Perhaps it is out of a rebellious anger that is embedded in us from early on that we are less then that of the standard around us, and that we have the right to act out at a later age when no one can tell us what is right and wrong anymore. With that thought you could also lay claim that if we were truly accepted as homosexuals as part of the mainstream, thus creating a more nurturing environment, that there would be no need for us as young men out experimenting with our sexualituring environment, that there would be no need for us as young men out experimenting with our sexuality to sneak around in dark secretive corners for our sexual outlets. That nurturing would then allow us to mature to an older age and feel more empowered, thus not creating that initial need to be so intent on acting out that anger some call "sexual freedom" that can ultimately lead to taking risk for a brief moment of closeness and intimacy to feel accepted.

In closing, when all was said and done and I sat down to write this letter, thinking I had heard a sampling of all the stories about why HIV infection is on the rise. I simply reflected on the following and real-

pling of all the stories about why HIV infection is on the rise, I simply reflected on the following and realized how ill informed I am.

A friend in New York who is HIV-negative recently went for his yearly HIV test. While sitting in the waiting room for the results, another young man sitting next to him, also waiting for results started up a conversation. The young man turned to my friend and said, "You know, sometimes I wish I were positive, I could really use the steroids for my workouts."

God, I miss my husband.

Tom Finan San Francisco

# **Abortion issue haunts** Bill Simon's campaign

by Wayne Friday

hen Republican Bill Simon was running for his party's gubernatorial nomination against former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, a moderate, pro-choice candidate, he (Simon) proudly touted his endorsement by the California Pro Life Coupil a group that seeks to Life Council, a group that seeks to outlaw abortion. Simon, a long-time foe of abortion rights, went on to ride a wave of conservative Republican votes on March 5 to win his party's nod against Demo-crat **Gray Davis** and now Simon is saying that while he privately opposes abortion there is little that he or any other governor in California could do about the



GOP candidate Bill Simon

Simon is wrong and has to know it. While the U.S. Supreme Court made abortion legal in 1973 with its Roe v. Wade decision, there is plenty that a governor of any state can do about the issue, and despite his disavowal there is a lot that a "Governor" Simon could do about abortion in this state.

Governor Davis stressed his

Governor Davis stressed his strong pro-choice stance at a meeting last week in San Francisco with a group of women sup-porters when he pointed out that the governor makes decisions on a wide range of abortion-related issues – in his appointments, in issues – in his appointments, in the budget, in supporting or op-posing funding and legislation on important issues such as family planning, contraceptives for teenagers, and other issues like birth control information for ju-nior high school and high school nior high school and high school students. Davis, dismissing Simon's claim that the "laws are set on the issue" and therefore the governor can do little or nothing about abortion, pointed out that since he became governor he has signed seven laws that concern abortion rights.

abortion rights.
One new law allows pharmacists to dispense emergency contraceptives, another protects women going to health clinics that perform abortions from harassment, and others scrapped archaic state laws that made abortion a

crime.
"I'd be very surprised if my opponent were to sign any of the
seven" Davis told the "Women for
Davis" meeting that featured Democratic New York Senator
Hillary Rodham Clinton. Davis said that his longtime support for abortion rights has also been reflected in his judicial appoint-

ments.
In contrast to Davis making his support of a woman's right to choose a staple of his re-election simple. campaign, Simon is making a concentrated effort to minimize any discussion on the issue. Inany discussion on the issue. Indeed, though he touted his pro-life stand to conservative GOP woters to win the March 5 primary, the day after he won he informed reporters in Sacramento that he planned to "avoid discussing" the politically polarizing issue.

"On abortion, there's not a lot a governor can not a lot a governor can

not a lot a governor can do," he said. As a result, when the issue is brought up Simon simply said he plans to "change the topic."

Davis and

his campaign

nis campaign
people are
telling Simon, "No way, not in this
campaign." The last Republican
governor, **Pete Wilson**, was in
fact pro-choice, but another Republican governor, **George Deuk-mejian**, an opponent of abortion rights, wasted no time in taking rights, wasted no time in taking the wrecking ball to the state's family planning program to the point of cutting its budget by more than 25 percent his first year in office. The program, then as now, provides funding to hospi-tals, clinics, and other organiza-tions that offer counseling and services to women on a wide services to women on a

range of family planning matters.
Simon, as governor, could do a
lot to set back abortion rights in the state. Shortly after the California Pro Life Council announced its endorsement of Simon in January, **Brian Johnston**, its executive director, boasted that "Simon wants the government out of the abortion industry." But Simon himself, fully aware of the prob-lem he now faces with California

lem he now faces with California voters – particularly women voters – on the explosive abortion issue, insists that he can ignore the issue and concentrate on other "more pressing issues" such as education, crime, the environment, energy, and the economy.

Any governor of the state can clearly wield tremendous power over a woman's right to choose. Davis proved this when he declared his support for SB1031, a bill that would, among other things, codify Roe v. Wade in the state, protecting California state, protecting California women's right to choose regardless of what happens to Roe v. Wade at the national level. California voters have to know that Simon, who admits to being staunchly anti-choice, could do much to roll back abortion rights in this state by appointing anti-choice judges to the state Supreme Court and to other state court positions, which could be problematic were *Roe v. Wade* ever overturned. And with veto power, Simon as governor would be able to put up dangerous roadblocks to a right that women in California have bed for so long.

a right that women in California have had for so long.
Davis used the occasion last week of receiving the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League's endorsement to attack his Republican opponent's opposition to abortion, saying, "Abortion is an issue where the differences are stark, crystal clear; he is on one side and I'm on the other side."

voters support abortion rights; in two recent statewide polls, registered voters split 2-1 or 3-1 in favor of keeping abortion legal. Davis, a longtime supporter of abortion rights, knows he has the issue on his side in this election. issue on his side in this election and he isn't about to let his Republican opponent walk away from or refuse to discuss the issue. Dave Puglia, who served as Dan

Dave Puglia, who served as Dan
Lungren's campaign manager
four years ago, recently
said that "it's possible,
but very difficult" for
an anti-abortion Republican to win a
statewide race in California. California
Pro Life Council's
Johnston, howey-

Johnston, however, was warning Simon last week that he "shouldn't run

away from the issue - that's what Lungren tried to do; if he [Simon] does that he's going to get creamed."

Simon can't have it both ways and no one knows that better than Davis and his savvy campaign manager, **Garry South**.

#### Politics and people

Our Man Friday

And speaking of the November election, Governor Gray Davis, who late last year signed AB25, a major gay rights bill that assures domestic partners several new rights, recently told the Bay Area Reporter that he had instructed his staff to examine Vermont's civil union law "to find out if any of those measures are amplicable to those measures are applicable to California," and while I don't for a minute question the governor's sincerity, I wouldn't look for any bill such as the one that Assem-blyman **Paul Koretz** (D-West Hollywood) had authored that would mean a Vermont-like civil union law to reach the governor's desk anytime before the Novem-ber election. However, assuming Davis is re-elected it could be-come a reality, but the last thing he wants is to have to face that one

for a few months.

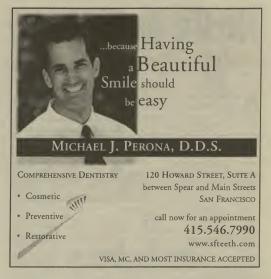
Incidentally, domestic partners in California who lost their loved ones in the September 11 attacks should receive benefits from the federal compensation fund, ac-cording to an executive order is-sued last week by Governor Davis. The action will ensure California's The action will ensure California's domestic partners don't "fall through the cracks," a Davis spokesperson said. The governor's office knows of at least one gay person, flight attendant, Jeffrey Collman from Novato, who died when American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the World Trade Center, who had a registered domestic partner. That partner can already receive some benefits from the California Victims Compensation fund, When eligibility rules

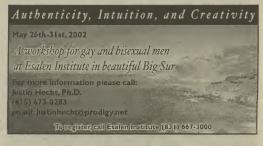
the California Victims Compensation fund. When eligibility rules for the federal fund were issued, however, the status of domestic partners was left in doubt.

San Francisco City Hall buzz has it that elections chief Tammy Haygood's job is very much in jeopardy, and those who are supposed to know these things tell me there is "no way" that the instant runoff operation will be ready for the November election.

the November election.

As for next year's mayoral race, yes, the name of Treasurer Susan Leal keeps coming up more and next page











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# Rosie and me

**Lesbian Notions** 

by Paula Martinac

few weeks ago I wrote a col-umn that was critical of Rosie O'Donnell and other celebrities for keeping their sexuality an "open secret." Among the many e-mail responses I got was a note from someone named "Rosie," asking me to do her a favor – to write to her at 11 p.m. on March 14, after the Diane Sawyer interview, and tell her what I thought of the show. Following her instructions to the letter (I was raised Catholic), I wrote and told "Rosie" I thought the Primetime show did a big

asked her for an interview. She wrote back and gave me a phone number – which turned out to be for the office of *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*. Although Rosie wouldn't agree to an in-person interview at this time, we spoke on the phone and did the following email exchange about her "odd po-sition" in the gay community.

PAULA: What kind of responses have you gotten to the Diane Sawyer interview?

ROSIE: All positive. Gay people tear up when they talk to me about it.

PAULA: In that interview, you said that you had never experienced discrimination as a gay person. But then later on you said you hope your kids are straight, because being gay is so hard. Those two statements seem contradicto-

ry – can you explain?

ROSIE: It is hard for most. Quite hard. I am not ignorant of that fact. I have many friends who have suffered as a result of being gay. I, however, have not. Aside from being denied the opportunity to adopt my foster child, I have never experienced discrimination as a gay woman.

PAULA: I was surprised that you read my column on Planet Out. Were you specifically looking for reactions to the rumor

that you were coming out, been reading

the gay press for a while ROSIE: I have always read "gay

magazines. I was not looking for anything particular. I do like to click around Planet Out and the Data Lounge, to see what's up. Who's saying what. How often, how loudly

PAULA: Why do you think gay journalists have been so hard on you, in a way that they weren't hard on Ellen?

ROSIE: I think they were quite tough on Ellen.

PAULA: Now that you've come out, why are some still being crit-

ROSIE: 'Cause some of them are bitter, hostile, myopic people, who no matter what would have had a

problem with my life decisions. My rule is, you play your cards, I will play mine.

PAULA: What do you make of gay journalist Michelangelo Signorile's assertion that it was your desire to silence your gay critics that made you come out?

ROSIE: He is a moron. His idea of gay America consists of only those he deems worthy enough. I do not enjoy him, his point of view, or his rhetoric. (He isn't even funny.) One reason I did not come out sooner, I didn't want anyone to associate me with Signorile in any way. Same goes for Musto [Michael Musto, Village Voice gostions have in the sound of the sound sip columnist].

PAULA: In an e-mail to me, you said you were now in an "odd po-sition" vis-a-vis the gay community - why is that?

ROSIE: 'Cause I think so many of the loudest gay folk cast judgment and assign blame to those they consider quietly gay – "not gay enough." I have been accused by some of being "not gay enough." My response has always been, I do not have to be gay like you. I only have to be gay like me.

PAULA: In coming out, how much were you hoping to broaden the public's view of gay people?

ROSIE: I was only trying to alert people to the fact that there are half a million kids in foster care in America. That over 100,000 are available for adoption today. That the laws in the state where I live prevented me from adopting the child I fostered for over 16

months, because I am gay. But mostly I wanted people to see Bert's [the foster son of gay par-ents Steve Lofton and Roger Croteau] family to know that the state was trying to take him away from his home. I wish I could say I had a gay agenda I was trying to serve. I did not. I want Bert to stay with his family. My speaking about my life, my situation as a gay Floridian foster parent could make a difference in that boy's life, and that is why I did it.

PAULA: Some gay activists seem to think that if everyone would just come out, all the problems of gay people would end.

ROSIE: Wouldn't that be amazing if it were true? I don't think it is.

PAULA: How important do you think coming out is to ending anti-gay discrimination?

ROSIE: I think it is important. I think everyone moves through life at their own pace, and patience is

PAULA: If you had not heard and felt so passionately about the case in Florida, do you think it would have taken you longer to come out to the public?

ROSIE: Yes. I wanted a reason. This was a good one. Who knows what would have happened? I knew after fostering one child I would foster another, and I wanted to make sure my home was a possible option for any child that would benefit in it. So I decided to fight this law in Florida. The case of Bert and his family was like a gift from above, to show everyone how absurd this law is.

PAULA: How much activist work

will you do in your public role as

ROSIE: As much as is needed to change the law.

PAULA: If the Florida gay adoption ban is overturned, do you see yourself moving on to the other states with gay adoption bans?

ROSIE: I live in Florida. I am a foster parent in Florida. I will concentrate on the law in that state.

PAULA: You told Diane Sawyer that most of the kids in Florida who need homes have black or brown skin. Do you think white people can do a good job parenting kids of color?

ROSIE: A mother's love for her child has nothing to do with skin

PAULA: When I interviewed gay couples for a book I wrote on gay marriage, many told me that their kids wanted them to get married and that they wanted to marry for the sake of their kids. If you could legally marry Kelli, would you?

ROSIE: I am in a committed, lifelong relationship with Kelli. We share our life in every way. We are

PAULA: If one of your kids does turn out to be gay, how would you support him or her?

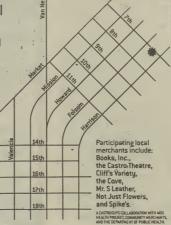
ROSIE: I will support my children in every way, as most of us only wish our parents had. ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books. She can be reached care of this publication or at LNcolumn@aol.com

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## **Our Man Friday**

■ previous page

more whenever the topic is dis-

Even supporters tell Assessor-Recorder **Doris Ward** that she has a lot of work to do if she expects to keep her job; 77 percent of those who voted in the March 5 primary voted for someone other than the incumbent Ward. And I wonder how many Cali-

fornia Republicans who think of gubernatorial nominee Bill Simon as one of those "true conservatives" know that their man helped San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, one of the state's most liberal Democrats, win re-election the last time around; SKS-Simon, one of Simon's investment firm's

real estate partnerships, donated \$95,000 to a campaign committee set up to help the mayor win re-election over **Tom Ammiano** in

Out of the race: The current issue of the Advocate features openly gay GOPer Patrick Guerriero on the cover but there's just one problem, Guerriero last week announced he was dropping out of the race for lieutenant governor

in Massachusetts.

Big buck\$ campaign: Final campaign records show Republican Michael Bloomberg spent \$76.4 million of his own money to become mayor of New York City; a record for a non-presidential election in the U.S. that even tops the combined \$68 million that Hillary Rodham Clinton and her

next page

# Who was 'Daring Dick'?

by Paula Martinac

April 1921 (81 years ago this month): Just before graduating from college, Richard Halliburton announces his intention to pursue an unconventional career as an adhentiment. adventurer and world traveler

lthough his name has been Ithough his name has been largely forgotten, in the 1920s and 1930s adventure-seeking, globe-trotting writer and lecturer Richard Halliburton was a household word. While he earned the nickname "Daring Dick" in his professional life, Halliburton was less bold in personal matters, carefully enarfully dign his box.

induction was less bold in personal matters, carefully guarding his homosexuality from the public.

Halliburton was born near Memphis in 1900 and in childhood did not seem destined for a life of adventure. He was a shy, slight bow who read Gore Will-de slight boy who read Oscar Wilde and Rupert Brooke and who early on was diagnosed with a rapid heartheat. Despite his par-ents' concerns about his fragile health, Halliburton embarked on his first long voyage while in his late teens, taking time off from his studies at Princeton to work on a freighter bound

for Europe. Halliburton eventually returned to col-

tualy returned to college, but dreamed of making his mark as an adventurer. In April 1921, a month before he graduated, he wrote to his parents, announcing his plans to make a living as a world traveler. His first book, he told they would not be a travel. he told them, would not be a travel guide, but a "vivid narrative of real experiences of a very live, open-eyed and sympathetic young man on an unconventional and originally executed circumnavigation of the globe." He even envisioned the book's cover "with Wanderlust in

big gilt letters across the front."

By July he and a friend had signed on as seamen on a freighter to Germany. After reaching their destination, they began biking and hiking their way across Western Europe. Along the way, they stopped in the Swiss Alps to scale stopped in the Swiss Alps to scale the 14,000-foot Matterhorn—without the benefit of any training or conditioning. Halliburton slipped twice on the way up but was saved by a safety rope attached to a guide. The climb, he later recalled, was the "fiercest moment of intense living I ever experienced."

Over the next couple of years.

Over the next couple of years, Halliburton hunted tigers in India, crossed the Malay peninsula on foot, stowed away on a ship to Singapore, and climbed a Japanese volcano solo. Keeping careful notes of his travels, he then chronicled his adventures in a manuscript he titled *The Royal Pand to Panasce* 

Road to Romance.

But publishers weren't impressed, and Halliburton took to



Moye Stephens, pilot, and Richard Halliburton, on the step of "The Flying Carpet."

the lecture circuit to make a living. One night at the Princeton Club One night at the Princeton Club in New York, an editor from Bobbs-Merrill heard Halliburton speak and immediately wanted to publish his book of adventures.

Halliburton's good looks also seemed to attract the male editor, who later wrote that "he looked like an Apollo His light hair made an aureole round his face. His eyes flashed. He was on fire with enthusiasm.... The effect was elec-

**Past Out** Although reviews for *The Royal Road* were unenthusiastic and some critics even accused the author of fabricating some of the stories, the book sold a phenomenal 100,000 book sold a phenomenal 100,000 copies during its first year. His swashbuckling prose appealed especially to adolescent boys, who could travel the globe vicariously through Halliburton's words.

Although women swooned for the dashing blond adventurer, Halliburton could not have cared less about the attentions of his female fans. Never married, he traveled

about the attentions of his female fans. Never married, he traveled with a series of young men whom biographers have called his "companions." He maintained a network of gay male acquaintances around the world and also in his home port of Laguna Beach, California, but was extremely guarded about his private life. In recent years, his name has been linked romantically with silent-screen actor Ramon Novarro and writer Paul Mooney, who collaborated with Halliburton on one of his books.

After The Royal Road, Hal-

After *The Royal Road*, Halliburton published six additional books, which boosted his fame and fortune and earned him the nickname "Daring Dick." In one book, he retraced the voyage of Ulysses, hero of the *Odyssey*, while another book documented how Halliburton swam the length of the Panama Canal. The Flying Carpet (1932) chronicled an exhausting flight across Africa and Asia with pilot Moye Stephens, a heterosexual man with whom Halliburton was in love but who

rebuffed his affections.

After the trip with Stephens, Halliburton began to tire of the traveling life, but his publisher pressed him for new, more dangerous escapades. Coupled with the demand for his books was Halliburton's chronic lack of money — despite healthy book sales, he was almost always broke, spending lavishly and having to borrow to finance his trips.

Halliburton dreamed up an adventure that would prove to be his last — he aimed to travel 9,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean in a

his last – he aimed to travel 9,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean in a replica of an ancient Chinese junk. In January 1939, Halliburton set sail on the Sea Dragon, complete with captain and crew, from Hong Kong on route to San Francisco. But in late March, the junk met with typhoon-force winds, and the captain had to wire for help. Sometime around March 24, while making its way toward Midway Island, the Sea Dragon went down.

ent down.

It took six weeks for the Navy to start looking for the lost junk: Halliburton had once faked his own death, and there were suspicions that he might be repeating that stunt. The search party scoured the ocean around Midway but turned up nothing. Hal-liburton probably would have ap-proved of his own drowning at sea: He once wrote to his father that he would be "especially happy

that he would be especially happy if I am spared a stupid, common death in bed."

Many admirers refused to believe Halliburton was dead – one popular rumor was that he was living on an island with missing (and nossibly au mossibly au mossibly au mossibly au mossibly au mossibly and mossibly and mossibly and mossibly are mossibly and mossibly possibly q<sup>11</sup> -) aviator Amelia Earhart. ' ...s 1976, one of his fema<sup>1</sup> was quoted in the *Los* Ar Jimes as wondering, "Do Lu think he'll ever come back? He was so beautiful."

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of seven books, including The Queerest Places: A Guide to Gay and Lesbian Historic Sites She can be reached care of this publication or at POcolumn@aol.com

## Suggested reading

Root, Jonathan. 1965. Hal-liburton: The Magnificent Myth – A Biography. New York: Coward-McCann. Schwartz, David M. 1989.

"On the Royal Road to Adventure with 'Daring Dick." Smithsonian, vol. 19, no. 2 (March).

Townsend, Guy. 1977.
"Richard Halliburton: The Forgotten Myth." Memphis magazine (August).

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## **Our Man Friday**

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GOP opponent, Rick Lazio, spent in the 2000 U.S. Senate race to represent the entire state of New York.

Now that California has tried the early March primary, whether you are a Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative, you can, noeral or conservative, you probably figure that the turnout for the early primary was pretty damn disappointing. Nearly two out of every three registered voters in the state sat out last month's election. If the September 11 ter

rorist attacks reawakened a sense of civic responsibility in Ameriof civic responsibility in Americans as many speculated, the turnout in California's March 5 primary indicates it didn't last very long. Was it merely voter discontent or was the primary indeed much too early? After decades of holding the primary in June, I'd guess the March date still catches many voters by surprise and while many voters by surprise and while the early primary was adopted by the Legislature in hopes of giving California voters a bigger voice in the presidential nominating process, the last two presidential contests have shown that experi-ment hasn't worked, and moving the primary back to June, at least in non-presidential elections, might bring a heavier turnout of voters. It would certainly shorten the excessively long period between the primary and the general election. Agree? Or maybe you don't really care, but I think I'll write Mark Leno a letter when he gets to Sacramento in January and ask the guy to take a look at the idea. Yep, it's been a slow week here.

And how was your week? ▼

Got a political tip? E-mail WayneFridaySF@aol.com

# SF AIDS Quilt chapter to close its doors



The Names Project AIDS Quilt on display in Washington, D.C. in 1996.

by Joe Dignan

t started in San Francisco in 1987 when Cleve Jones stitched together a memorial to his friend Marvin Feldman and made the first panel of what would become the AIDS Memor-ial Oult

'Outside of a miracle," said local board member Dolores Thompson, it will end on May 31, Thompson, it will end on May 31, for San Francisco, when the Bay Area chapter of the Names Project shuts its doors.

The quilt, which commemorates the lives of nearly 45,000 people who have died of AIDS, is row, according to Lopes "the

people who have died of AIDS, is now, according to Jones, "the world's largest work of art." In San Francisco, however, there is too much work, and too few people to do it. "Our little team is worn out. We're ready to drop," said Thompson. Only four board maphers, remain to do the board members remain to do the work of collecting, showing, and caring for quilt panels in the Bay Area. The chapter's offices on Sanchez Street are only open eight

The Names Project Founda-tion, the umbrella organization that coordinates all quilt-related activities, moved its main ware-house and offices to Atlanta from San Francisco a year ago, in April 2001, and has centralized and reduced the size of its operations after a series of financial setbacks.

Local activities around the quilt – making panels and dis-playing them – are often done by playing them – are often the 22 chapters of which, since the



AIDS Quilt founder Cleve Jones

foundation's move last year, San

foundation's move last year, San Francisco is now just one.

The national foundation wants to bring those chapters more under the control of the main organization and wrote a new chapter agreement which restricts the activities of the local chapters. The San Francisco chapter board calls a new agreement, which they were a new agreement, which they were required to sign by February 1, the "straw on the camel's back," ac-cording to Thompson. It prohibits them from soliciting funds by direct mail, requires them to coordinate fund-raising activities from national corporations with the main foundation office, doubles the shipping costs for quilt panels from the corporations in A.

the shipping costs for quilt panels from the storage location in Atlanta, and requires that they pay an increased rental charge per panel. According to managing director Julie Rhoad, six chapters, not including San Francisco, have closed recently: Central Ohio; Houston; Rhode Island; Southeastern Massachusetts; Syracuse, New York; and Washington, D.C. "We need to make plans for the entire organization. It does not

entire organization. It does not make sense to have 30 or 40 separate entities off doing their own thing," said founder Jones. "I think it's possible that none of the chap-ters as we know them today will exist. We're changing. We're reor-

ganizing."
But Jones insisted that the national foundation did not want to put the San Francisco chapter out of business. "Board members made several trips to the Bay Area to help them. We offered assis-tance. We were concerned. We made every effort to work with

Jones said that the foundation

wants to have an office in San

We're absolutely committed to a long-term presence for the quilt in the city of its birth," he

Jones said that plans for San Francisco include sending Gert McMullin, who identifies herself McMullin, who identifies herself as the foundation's "first volun-teer" and is now the production coordinator for the quilt, to San Francisco for several weeks this summer.

The organization went through a financial crisis, following an October 1996 display of the quilt on the Mall in Washington, D.C. Jones said it took on too many employees and expanded too rapidly. "The Names Project in 1996 had 50 full time employees," said Jones. "It was clear, within six months, that we could not support that expansion. We had to lay off. We were really gutted. It has taken us all this time to recover." The foundation now has fewer than 10 full-time employees, ac-

than 10 full-time employees, according to Jones.

Jones said the work of the Names Project must change with the changing demographics of the AIDS epidemic. "We're going through what every AIDS organization is going through. The death rates have declined dramatically," he said. "We're grateful for that. It's been a huge part of it. There's been a decline in volunteers and there's a growing sense of complacency."

a decline in volunteers and there's a growing sense of complacency."
"But look," Jones said, "at Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York.
"The majority of the people served there are neither gay nor men. It's African American and Latino women. In the African American compunity there's a American community there's a pervasive stigma about the dis-

Iones said he believes that the Jones said he believes that the quilt can continue to be of great value in the fight against AIDS, but insisted that it must change with the changing face of the epi-

I see a turning away from the epidemic by gay white men at the same time that the majority of new infections are among people of color," Jones said. "We've got to or color, Jones said. We ve got to be custodians for this enormous work of art and plan for how it will be cared for when this epi-demic is over, and, simultaneously, we have to use the quilt to has-

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# **Davis signs executive** order assisting same-sex couples

by Matthew S. Bajko

n an effort to help the state's domestic partners who suf-fered emotional or financial losses due to the terror attacks of September 11, Governor Gray Davis signed an executive order last week that offers those families

Davis had disclosed to the *Bay*Area Reporter during an interview
in March that he would sign such
an order. By signing executive
order D-54-02 Thursday April 4, Davis instructed the California Victims Compensation and Government Claims Board to provide information, assistance, and service

to California families, including domestic partners registered with the secretary of state, in helping them to obtain federal assistance.

them to obtain federal assistance.
The move by Davis, who is running for re-election this year, is an effort to help those families seeking federal aid under the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund. The special master of that fund has said he will rely on state laws in determining all sequents.

laws in determining all requests.
"These families will face signif icant financial and emotional hardship resulting from the loss of their loved ones," Davis said in a statement. "Those who have suf-fered the loss of their spouse, domestic partner, parent, or child

next page

# **Longtime Castro DJ record store to close**

by Matthew S. Bajko

t survived the murder of its owner.
It survived through two

decades of AIDS

It even survived several re-openings.
But the CD Record Rack, the Castro's last remaining DJ record

shop, can't survive any longer.

It has succumbed to a triple whammy dealt by the advent of Napster, the dot-com implosion, and a drop-off in tourism since September 11.

"Most of my customers have had to leave town," said store owner Michael Garrett. "At one point last year, we were a U-Haul pit stop for people on their way out of town."

Like Ron's Records, Vera's Vinyls, and Aloha before it, the CD Record Rack will spin its last tune for shoppers on April 30. Then the music will die.

"At this point it is like presiding over the autopsy of your child," Garrett said of having to shutter his shop on the corner of 18th and Sanchez streets.

It is not just the inventory in

It is not just the inventory in the former garage space Garrett works in that will be packed up and sold – most likely to another record store in Southern Califorhoused in two other garages that are the former record collections of men who died from AIDS in the 1980s.

the 1980s.
"There are just stacks and stacks of records. Because of AIDS the store became a depository for all these kids' record collections," said Garrett. "Their families would pack up their records and just drop them off with us."

In 1984 the store opened in the heart of the Castro above the former Phoenix. Then in 1986 it moved to its current location at 3897 18th Street.

moved to its current location at 3897 18th Street. It closed for several years until Garrett and a friend remodeled the space for the store's original owner Jake Symusiak. A few months after reopening in 1994, Garrett inherited the business when Symusiak was murdered

when Symusiak was murdered.
Over the years, the store not only sold its wares but served as a only sold its wares but served as a gathering spot for the city's gay (and straight) disc jockeys. Garrett, who used to DJ at such venerable San Francisco gay hot spots as the Trocadero and I-Beam, hired Neil Lewis, Pleasuredome's resident DJ, as manager of the store. Phil B. and Jerry Bonham have also been regulars at the

Business pumped along with the beats blasted from the store's speakers until November 2000.

## **Davis order**

previous page

can now be extended every possible consideration and benefit under" the federal fund.

According to the governor's office, there are an estimated "156 California families struggling with emotional devastation as well as

California families struggling with emotional devastation as well as severe financial losses, while facing confusing legal and practical decisions regarding the estates of their suddenly deceased loved ones."

In California, there is one known gay couple torn apart by the terror attacks. Novato resident Keith Bradkowski lost his longtime partner Jeffrey Collman, who was a flight attendant on American Airlines Flight 11. ▼

Napster had sprung to life over the Internet and soon the club kids and circuit queens didn't need to purchase the latest dance hit. They could download it onto their

could download it onto their computer.

"With music downloading we are no longer the CD Record Rack, we are now the Record Rack. The CD market has completely dried up," explained Garrett. "The vinyl still sells to the DJs but the CDs don't sell anymore."

Sales also began to suffer the

Sales also began to suffer the next year as more and more of the store's shoppers picked up and moved out of town. But the final death toll for his business came

"September 11 killed the tourist industry in San Francisco," said Garrett.

Even with a reduction of his rent by half, Garrett said he still could not turn a profit. With the landlord raising the rent back up this month, Garrett decided he could no longer afford to remain

open.
"It is the end of an era for the Castro," he said. ▼



The last spin: CD Record Rack's Michael Garrett in his Castro store, which will close at the end of April.

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# Librarian archives Cal's gay pa

by Matthew S. Baiko

or gay men and lesbians en-rolled at the University of California at Berkeley dur-ing the 1950s, life was ruled by one thing – the Code of Silence. "It was all right if everybody

"It was all right if everybody knew you were gay, as long as you didn't flaunt it. And I think that I was afraid that I would somehow be swept up in a raid, or something, and be exposed," recalled Mildred Dickemann, who graduated in 1959. "It was very scared."

If not for the work of one up:

If not for the work of one uni-If not for the work of one uni-versity librarian, that code of si-lence would still linger today. In-stead, openly gay William Bene-mann, himself a former student on campus, is helping alumni and former employees of the school steak out.

Through his Gay Bears! Collection, Benemann has been cataloging oral histories about what life was like before gay students, faculty, and staff could come out of their campus closets. Since

starting his project in 1995, he has collected 10 oral histories and six autobiographical essays.

"Life stories are important. There isn't a gay man or lesbian alive today who hasn't stood on the shoulders of those who came before them," said Benemann, head of technical services for the Roalt Hall I way School I brary. "It head of technical services for the Boalt Hall Law School Library. "It gives you a different perspective on your world. For the most part, gay and lesbian history has been ignored and neglected." To tap into this former under-ground world on campus, Bene-

mann put a call out through the gay alumni association that he wanted to interview people. He also has been collecting the archives of gay student organizations, papers produced in gay studies classes, and student liter-ary publications.

ary publications.

In addition, he followed a group of eight students in the class of 2001 and intermittently interviewed them about their experiences during their four years on campus. And he has journals

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one-time research interview and

focus group about smoking habits

and smoking treatment needs

of the GLBT community.

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kept by students in the queer co-op for the last several years. Through his volunteer efforts,

Benemann has unearthed a past most students today couldn't imagine. For there was a time on campus where self-expression had dire consequences.

"All that was very dangerous, because if you had ever gotten caught, it would have been – God knows what," recalled Erwin Kelly from the class of 1954. "I mean I hate to even think what the administration would have done to you had they caught you."

you had they caught you."

Life did not begin to change
for queer students until the late
1960s and early 1970s, when the
first gay groups on campus
formed. One of Benemann's favorite archives is an invitation to the campus' first gay dance sent to then-Governor Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy.

The invite was a response to Reagan's quip he was not invited to the dance when asked about it

to the dance when asked about it by a journalist. "It was so startling that a re-porter was asking the governor about a gay dance, you couldn't imagine it," said Benemann.

By capturing those unique mo-ments of Cal's queer past, Bene-mann hopes to educate the gener-ations of queer students to come about a life much different from their own.

"Twenty, 30, 40 years ago it was a different planet," he said. "What their life was like here is incomprehensible to me, and I was a student here in the 1970s."



Cal librarian William Benemann

Alumni who wish to add their oral histories, or donate materials to the collection, can contact Ben-emann at (510) 642-8722 or email him at benemann@law. berkeley.edu. ▼

# confab next week

by Liz Highleyman

he 2002 National Organization for the Reform of Mari-juana Laws conference will take place next week, April 18-20, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Francisco. The conference, as usual, is scheduled to encompass "4/20," a number associated in popular cul-ture with marijuana use.

This year's conference, themed
"A Celebration of Personal Freedom," will include leading proponents of marijuana law reform, in-cluding San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan, state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-Santa Clara), Cato Institute exec-utive vice president David Boaz, Lindesmith Center director Ethan Nadelmann, Politically Incorrect TV host Bill Maher, and actor and hemp activist Woody Harrelson.

Additional speakers include Donald Abrams – who is heading up the first state-spon-sored study of the therapeutic benefits of cannabis, which re-cently enrolled its first participant - city Supervisor Mark Leno, local author Chris Conrad, feminist writer Barbara Ehrenreich, Elec

tronic Frontier Foundation co-founder John Gilmore, and med-ical marijuana club directors Michael Aldrich, Scott Imler, Jeff

Michael Aldrich, Scott Imler, Jeff Jones, and Wayne Justmann.

The conference begins Thursday, April 18, with a keynote address by Hallinan, followed by panel discussions, a plenary talk by Nadelman, and a High Times/NORML reception, awards ceremony, and art auction. Friday's opening speaker will be Vasday's opening speaker will be Vas-concellos, followed by more pan-els. Saturday's schedule features additional panels and a luncheon

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**Howard Dean** 

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would allow up to three pounds of marijuana per patient, a figure he based on one marijuana plant yielding one pound of marijuana. Local activists tried to correct him.

"If you have a plant that will yield one pound, it would take some kind of plant," said Wayne Justmann, of the San Francisco Patients Resource Center. "I hope

you get better information."

Bruce Mirken, with the Washington D.C.-based Marijuana Policy Project, has lobbied in support of the Vermont law. He told the Bay Area Reporter that he was at a loss to explain Dean's opposition

"I'm flabbergasted that a man of obvious intelligence is giving such transparent, ridiculous answers," Mirken said, when told of Dean's comments in San Francisco. "As a physician, Howard Dean knows better."

Despite his opposition to the current legislative proposal, Dean did not dismiss the idea of medical marijuana legislation. "It's some-thing we can work on," he said. Pressed for specific changes he

would like to see in the Vermont bill, Dean said, "I'm not prepared to talk about it."

Leno told the B.A.R. that he met with Dean before the board meeting and discussed the medical marijuana issue with the gov-

ernor.

"I handed him a letter and told him about the ID card program here," Leno said, referring to the medical marijuana ID card program run by the Department of Public Health that Leno spearbanded. That program is sunheaded. That program is sup-posed to aid local law enforcement officers when they stop someone suspected of marijuana

use. The card contains a photo of the person and an identification number, but no other identifying information. People go through DPH to apply for the ID card. "I explained why medical mar-

ijuana is such an important issue to the queer community," Leno added.

Leno said he also pointed out that 70 percent of Californians supported Proposition 215 when

supported rioposition 219 men it was passed by voters in 1996. Dean was receptive to his com-ments, Leno said, though he added that the Vermont governor said there are problems with the legislation in his state. Leno said

he acknowledged that he wasn't familiar with the Vermont pro-

Mirken said that people living with AIDS and other life-threatwith AIDS and other life-threat-ening illnesses are the ones who need protection from prosecution for possession of medical cannabis.

"The central question is does he or does he not believe that PWAs using pot to relieve nausea ... should go to jail for this," Mirken said of Dean. Mirken added that polling in

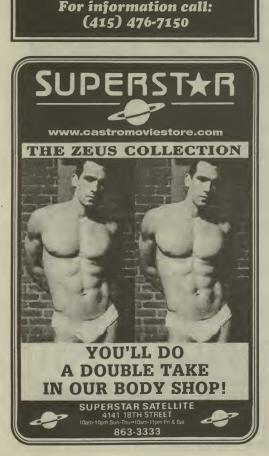
several states generally thought to be conservative consistently shows

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## Dyke contest winners



F Leather Dyke Daddy 2002 Vick Germany, left, and Dyke Diva 2002 Miss Billie won top honors Saturday, April 6 at the annual Dyke Daddy/Dyke Diva contest. The event, attended by more than 300 people, raised \$2,500 for the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund. \*\text{Nt was a powerful event,}'' Miss Billie said. Each winner will promote leather pride and a positive awareness of women's needs in the queer community, as well as a chosen charity. Germany will support the Women's Cancer Resource Center, while Billie will lend her efforts to the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society.



# City CarShare parks itself in the Castro

by Matthew S. Bajko

n effort to relieve car congestion on San Francisco's streets has become so popular with Castro residents that the program hopes to expand its presence in the neighborhood.

As City CarShare marks its one-year anniversary this month, the program's managers are al-ready looking to bolster the num-ber of cars parked in the Castro. They have already set up two "pod locations" in the area.

One pod is at the public parking lot behind the Castro Walgreens where two green Volkswagen Beetles are kept. The second pod is at California Pacific Med-ical Center's Davies Campus on the corner of 14th and Noe streets where five vehicles are parked: three Beetles and two letta station

wagons.
The municipal parking lot behind Walgreens is seen as an "extremely key location" by CarShare deputy manager Kate White, who

deputy manager Kate White, who is scouting for a new place to set up another pod.

"We are trying to convince Safeway to give us some spaces," White said at a meeting with Castro merchants Thursday, April 4.

"Right now [the Castro pod] is

pretty popular, but we are not bursting at the seams." City CarShare is a community-based nonprofit that strives to provide an alternative to car ownership for San Francisco and the Bay Area. The idea is to provide a shared fleet of vehicles in urban

snared fleet of venicles in urban communities where parking and traffic are big problems. "We don't want more cars," White said. "We can't accommo-date a huge car for every person that comes here."

With parking spaces harder to find than a dot-com job in San Francisco, it is no wonder there are 1,300 members already signed

are 1,500 members arready signed up with the car-sharing program. "We have been wildly success-ful. It has been beyond my wildest dreams," said White, who thought the program would attract 500 members at best during its first year.

year.

"A lot of people don't want to own a car," said White.

While she could not give a specific number of people living in the Castro who are members, White said based on an average of 30 people per car, about 60 people are being serviced by the two cars parked in the lot at 18th and Collingwood.

In addition to the two Castro-area locations, there are 11 other

locations within San Francisco, two in Berkeley and two in Oak-land, with a third planned near the Rockridge BART station. The program, which has 45 vehicles for its members, uses smart cards and a tracking system that auto-

and a tracking system that automatically records time and mileage for monthly billing.

The agency has entered into partnerships with the three cities, as well as BART, Caltrain, Muni, AC Transit and the Valley Transtation \$1.8 million over the past two years and future plans include of-fering electric vehicles, integrating City CarShare into the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's universal fare card Translink pro-

gram, and expanding to the South Bay along transit lines. Mike Rafferty, a principal engi-neer with S.S. Papadopulos, an en-vironmental consulting firm on Church Street, uses City CarShare for both business and personal

travel.

"My wife and I have a car but my wife and I have a car but my wife needs it to get to work and back so I never have a car. Through this it is easy to have a car to get around for short dis-tances," said Rafferty, the 80th per-

son to become a member.

The Castro and Davies pods are a short walk from his office,

plus the price beats renting a car for business trips, said Rafferty. Whereas renting a car to drive to Oakland would usually cost \$40

Oakland would usually cost \$40 plus gas, he said City CarShare charges \$10 for the rental and less than \$10 for the mileage.

"I used to rent cars all the time for company business so now I just use CarShare, especially for short distances," he said. "The Castro one is tough because they are out a lot, it is easier to get them at Davies."

#### Some concerns in Castro

The arrival of the CarShare pod in the Castro has caused some concern among merchants and residents. Some business owners questioned how the program could commandeer two spaces in a business district known for its shortage of parking. Those concerns prompted White's meeting with the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro group last

week.
White promised to address the group before the program expands its presence in the neighborhood. She also said she would try to come back with concrete numbers about how many members him expends in the Certification.

bers live or work in the Castro.
"We can come back in one month to see what makes sense for the merchants and for our needs," she said.

Having the program in the area makes sense to MUMC Vice President Barry Hermanson, who sees it as helping to alleviate the district's parking problems.

"This program I think actually serves the business community as well as the residents. There are fewer cars trying to fight for the restricted number of parking spaces in the area as a whole," said Hermanson. "For every resident who chooses not to own a car, it means a parking space for shop-pers who come into the area."

He said it can also help to reduce the number of employees who need to drive to work in the Castro since they can use the Car-Share vehicles not only to commute to their jobs but to also run

"Overall, it should have a very significant impact on the number of cars coming into the area as

said Hermanson.
Residents have also logged complaints about the program's arrival in the neighborhood after their cars were towed because they had parked in the program's designated spaces. To inform residents about the program and rules regarding its parking spaces, City CarShare members will be hitting the Castro on Friday, April 19 to hang fliers on people's

"Towing these cars has left neighbors unhappy, and we want to inform them about what exact-ly City CarShare is," said an e-mail the program sent to its members.

For more information about the program, or to become a member, contact City CarShare at (415) 995-8588 or visit its Web site at www.citycarshare.org.

# **NCLR** names new public education director

by Katie Zak Szymanski

new and yet familiar face now walks the hallways of the National Center for Lesbian Rights. New, because Marta Donayre

was recently hired as NCLR's public education director, a position responsible for bringing legal resources to underserved groups and increasing effectiveness in educating the mainstream about LGBT discrimination.
Familiar, because Donayre has

already had quite a presence in the LGBT community through her activism on behalf of gay immigrants like herself who have limited options for staying with their

ed options for staying with their American lovers.

Donayre, 32, was featured last year in the pages the *Bay Area Reporter* as well as in national magazines like the *Advocate* and *Curve* for bringing attention to her plight to stay with her partner of two years, Leslie Bulbuk, in their Sunnyvale home. A Brazilian im-Sunnyvale home. A Brazilian immigrant, Donayre came to the United States in 1995 on a student visa, then obtained a work visa to pursue her career. But as a mar-keting employee who tended to work for technology companies, her job security became increasingly threatened, as did her chances for a green card. Donayre formed Love Sees No

Borders, a group designed to bring attention to the issue of LGBT immigration, and LGBT immigration, and drummed up publicity for the lit-tle-known congressional bill H.R. tle-known congressional bill H.K. 690 by Representative Jerrold Nadler (D-New York) which would allow same-sex partners to sponsor each other for citizenship. The bill remains stalled, and has been complicated by the events of September 11, which resulted in



New NCLR staffer Marta Donayre

stricter immigration scrutiny, in-cluding the detention of hundreds of people who came to the United States on the same type of visa as

It was while working with groups to garner support for Nadler's bill that Donayre first learned of the open position at NCLR. She applied, got the job,

and started March 1. She also managed to secure political asy-lum in February, thus ending her own struggle that has left her "with deep scars,"

"No couple should have to go through the constant fear that they will be torn apart," she said.

Donayre's work at NCLR will continue to focus on immigration issues, she said, and will also include outreach to people of color and assistance with more general education efforts.

"Empowering all members of empowering an inefluers of our own community to assert their legal rights and educating the general public are key components of our legal strategy," said Kate Kendell, executive director of NCLR. "Marta's experience will certainly enable NCLR to build on our demonstrated commitment to public education."

An upcoming town hall meeting about LGBT immigration is planned in conjunction with the Human Rights Campaign on May 18. Other educational campaigns, and issues on the NCLR radar can be found at www.nclrights.org. ▼

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## **Howard Dean**

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that medical marijuana continues to be popular.

#### Meeting with treasurer

Dean seemed to take the exchange with medical marijuana activists in stride. Afterwards, he met with city Treasurer Susan Leal and Therese Stewart from the City Attorney's office. Dean, whose term expires in January 2003, an-nounced last year that he would not seek re-election. This week, Dean strongly hinted that he'll run for president in 2004, though

he stopped short of declaring his candidacy. He conceded that he's about 2 percent in recent polls of possible Democratic challengers to President Bush.
At the meeting, Dean de-

scribed himself as a fiscal conservative and more liberal on social issues. He said that his decision to sign the civil union legislation, which went into effect July 1, 2000, was the result of his firm be-

"We separated the religious and legal parts [of marriage]," Dean said. "As for the legal part, everyone has to have equal rights under the law. It's one thing to say so, it's another thing to do so." ▼



# Freedom to love

by Chavonny

rom Ellen to Will & Grace to Queer as Folk, we gays and lesbians have come a long way. We contribute to society in every way possible. We're lawyers, doctors, actors, musicians, artists, and entertainers. Most importantly we're havyever and

yet, homosexuals are among the most discrim-inated minorities in the country. Some might even say the most discriminated against be Generation Q other minorities,

ve don't have the specific right to marry that others do. This is an unimaginable reali-ty and a reality that contradicts the idea of freedom upon which this country was founded. In what way is it at all democ-

and privilege to love whom they want and to celebrate that love legally? As far as I know, two people of the same sex getting married

one else, so then why does our gov-ernment, which was founded on democracy, continue to prohibit it? Some might say religion is the rea-son. I realize that when talking about legalizing gay marriages, one must ask oneself what marriage acnally is. The main reason why gay marriages are not legal in this

country and many others is because being gay is seen as a sin in the eyes of God. Because marriage origi-nated from religion and religious ceremonies, it is seen as disrespectful to allow

a same-sex cou-ple to come to-gether under the eyes of God when God is allegedly against homosex-uality. If that is the way our government and many other individu-als feel about it then that's fine, but the problem with this is that today, the majority of marriages taking place have very little if anything at all to do with God. Today people get married all the time in civil cer-emonies that are very non-tradi-

tional. If a straight couple can get legally married by an Elvis imper-sonator, you have to ask yourself, how many marriages are truly the sacred institute that they were once seen as? If you really think about it, the idea of marriage has changed the idea of marriage has changed so much from the traditional religious symbol it once was, that by this point, the idea of gay people getting married really isn't disrespecting anything or anyone.

Many people believe that being gay is just about sex and not love, but gay people can fall in love, too. Apparently, our government does-

that legally.

ferently. For many of us, the only other person we have that truly accepts and understands us is our partner and it's a shame that we can't have that legally.

can't have that legally.

Still, many say that gays have
no business adopting straight society's traditions, but legalizing
gay marriage isn't about gaining
acceptance from straight America acceptance from straight America or trying to be a part of a group that doesn't want us — it's about survival. If nothing was at stake then I could understand people not caring about this issue, but

everything is at stake. This is just For many of us, the only other person we have that truly accepts and understands us is our partner and it's a shame that we can't have

n't think so, but denying us the right to marry isn't just denying us health benefits or the right to execute a partner's will; it also further complicates the adoption process. It doesn't matter how much two parents love and raise their child together, only one of them is contogether, only one of them is considered the legal guardian. God forbid something bad were to happen to that person because if it did, the other parent would be left with no rights to their child. That child could be ripped out of their home and away from the only other parent that it has ever known. If the parents were legally married, both parents would be legal guardians of their child and this wouldn't be an issue.

this wouldn't be an issue.

Some people think this treatment is okay, but where does it all end? What have we taken from anyone to deserve degradation and persecution? The only real crime is the fact that we love dif-

one fight in a much bigger battle. Straight America might feel that this isn't their problem. That's fine, but what happens when an-other group or minority is singled out the way gays are being now and blacks were in the past? Whose problem will it be then? For gay people who don't care about this issue, think about what you are doing. You would rather turn your head and look the other way after we've come so far, but still have a long way to go? That is the type of attitude that gives op-pressors all the glory.

pressors all the glory.
I'm not saying that all gay people should rush out and get married if they don't feel the need. For example, when talking to Gregg Gonsalves, a gay man who has been in a monogamous relationship with his partner for four and a half years, and lived with him for three years. I discovered him for three years, I discovered that he already feels married even

though he isn't. When I asked him if he wanted to get legally married if possible, he said no. He ex-plained, "We can't have kids and if possible, he said no. He explained, "We can't have kids and we don't want to adopt children, so there is no reason to get married. The primary reason to get married is to set up a family for children." Gonsalves's reasoning for not wanting to get married is for not wanting to get married is totally valid because that is his personal choice, but when asked how it made him feel to know that other gays and lesbians couldn't get married if they wanted too, he responded by saying, "I think it's unfair. People who are expected to contribute to society and obey all the rules of society should be given the benefits and

perks of society as well."

He may not want it for himself, but he definitely thinks that those who do want marriage should be allowed to have it. The bottom line is that whether or not it's clear how many of us want or don't want marriage, it's clear that we all want to be treated equally.

The author is a student at the Academy of Art College in San Francisco. To find out about Francisco. To find out about writing a future "Generation Q" column, which appears in conjunction with the Bay Area Reporter and LYRIC, please email Ned the red@yahoo.com. All lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, intersex, queer, and questioning mentals are 25 transgender, intersex, queer, and questioning people age 25 and under are welcome to join the group of writers. No experience is required. All that is required is a different experience and the will to tell it. Because of the age of some it. Because of the age of some of the writers or the fact that they may not be out to their families or face other circumstances, the authors of this column may only be identified by their first names.



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## **HIV** institute

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agnosed and treated much more quickly than that."

quickly than that."

As AIDS and HIV have changed from a death sentence in the early years of the epidemic to a chronic health issue, Davies officials say there is less need for the HIV institute.

"This is a happy occurrence," David P. Drennan, the director of the research center, wrote in a let-ter to hospital administrators. "Since the establishment of the In-stitute, HIV infection has evolved into a medically manageable, chronic and largely outpatient

According to officials, when the institute was founded it was the only way for patients to gain access to new drugs and treatments. Today, that is not the case. Only 30 patients are currently enrolled in

patients are currently enrolled in clinical trials which will end this month, and no patients receive treatment through the institute.
"In the early days of HIV and AIDS, the only way patients could get to new drugs was through programs set up for clinical trials. Accessing those drugs has not been such an issue lately," said Ann Mosher Davies' director of malicials. Mosher, Davies' director of public

In addition, Drennan cited as another reason for closing the in-stitute the fact that most studies being conducted no longer benefit patients, but the pharmaceutical companies pushing already avail-able medications.

"The focus, in my view, of the antiretroviral drug study proto-cols of the major pharmaceutical companies is mostly directed tocompanies is mostly directed to-ward gaining market share for al-ready licensed drugs," Drennan stated in his letter. "I do not fore-see becoming available in the near future controlled trials of important new antiretroviral treatment modalities that would be of value to our patient population, and for which we could reasonably expect to recruit sufficient numbers of

participants."
Instead of having a separate entity, the HIV institute, along with other institutes at CPMC, is being combined under the aus-

pices of a more generic Research Institute, Mosher said. "We are in no way turning our back on research that will help AIDS patients," said Mosher. Patients and AIDS activists dis-

Patients and AIDO as agree.
"I personally have a difficult time understanding his comments that this is a joyous occasion. It is a sad situation that needs to be talked about," said Dan Phillips, a patient at the neuroAIDS clinic. "The institute might want to re-define what their goals are, but define what their goals are, but closing it down is just the wrong way to go. I would love for Davies to comment on the interest there seems to be in the community on

Now 51 years old, Phillips said he was diagnosed more than 20 years ago with HIV and two years ago suffered a stroke. As more gay men live longer lives with the disease, he said more research needs

to be done, not less.

"The more people I meet in my situation who are on cocktails and living longer, I have noticed there is early onslaught of things like di-abetes and arthritis and strokes," said Phillips. "Since Davies is in this great place, there is an oppor-tunity to study people like me. And not only to deal with the var-ious early onslaught of diseases

and ailments, but why are people like me still alive after 20 years?"
While he said he is saddened about the demise of the institute, Jim Mitulski, co-chair of the HIV Health Services Planning Council, eaid he is not surprised by the said he is not surprised by the medical center's decision.

"We are not seeing an anti-HIV thing as much as a profit-dri-ven health care organization that is reprioritizing where it puts its resources," said Mitulski. "HIV has shown us the total inadequacy to our American approach to health care. This is one more example of

what happens."
No matter what happens to her clinic, McGuire said Davies needs to be held accountable for meet-

ing the needs of the community.

"I have no doubt I will find a way to continue this effort. I have been doing it 12 years in a variety of different circumstances,' said. "My concern is with the larger issue of the abandonment of er issue of the abandonment of Davies' mission to serve the community it resides in. The HIV institute has the potential to support vital services to the community but over the past three years that potential has been weakened and ultimately abandoned."

## Lenore Cauttrelle



Lenore Caut-trelle, born in 1908 and citizen of San Francisco for 52 years, passed on March 27th. She was often men-tioned in Herb

Caen's column and more often supplied him with many tips. Dubbed by female impersonator entertainer, Charles Pierce, "the Queen of Polk Street," he daily walks along that street, wearing her trademark bowler hat, often drew friends into conversations and much loved gossip. In her 80s, she became the world's oldest rapper with Ginger Coyote's White Trash Debutantes and was profiled on Mornings on 2 and A Current Affair for her punk performances. She was also a pastel portrait artist, her works having appeared in several art shows, including one at St. Francisco Hospital which was featured on the nightly news. She was a regular caller to the late night talk radio shows, including Ray Taliaferro's, commenting on is

sues and freely giving her opinions. She appeared in a documentary directed by Jennifer Frame, local filmmaker, about women's first experiences of menstruation. No topic was taboo to this feisty, independent, daring 20th century woman. Other professions she dabbled in were talent manager, palm reader, and manager-trainer for the telephone company. Lenore is survived by her two nicces, Jody Meyer and Donna Davis, their children and grandchildren, and many, many loyal and loving friends. Lenore's passing ends an era of great characters of San Francisco. She will be missed.

Barry Edward Bottinelli



Our dear and beloved friend, beloved friend, Barry Bottinelli, died tragically and unexpectedly after contracting bacter-ial meningitis. Dis-guised as the flue, this insidious dis-ease took our

ized. Born at Inglewood, New Jersey,
Barry served in the United States Air
Force and had lived in San Francisco for
the last 25 years. Barry is survived by his
partner of 24 years, Tyone Crews.

Barry had worked for the San Francisco Wax Museum for 23 of the last 25
years apart from a brief few months in
Palm Springs (when he and Tyrone
"took their furniture on vacation") and
a short stint working at the Sony Metreon Center. He will be much missed at
the Museum where he was their "jack of
all trades."
Barry lowed riding motorcycles and
was very fond of gadgets and all things
electronic, especially computers. There
is an empty seat at the Twin Peaks and
we all miss Barry's cheerful presence, especially during the cocktail hour. A private cremation has been held and
friends are requested to raise their glass
in remembrance. We hope Heaven is on
the Internet.

Michael Gerald Everett May 2, 1947 — May 1, 2001

Mike Everett passed in his sleep on May 1, 2001, the day before he would have turned 54, with his partner of 27 years by his side. Mike had suffered



from various illnesses and was in
and out of the hospital for two and a
half years. Mike met
his lifetime partner
Ken in 1975 and
both lost their
hearts to each other.
Mike was a volunteer with Visiting
Nurses and Hospice for over 10 years
and helped raise money for the AIDS
Emergency Fund for several years. Over
the years Mike touched so many hearts
with his humor and wit. He will be
missed by family, friends and especially
his partner.
Mikelon by residuations and with the

with his humanise missed by family, friends and especially his partner.

Michael, we miss your gentle kindness and caring. We rever your dignified and principled stands. A star has gone from our heaven. One we will never forget yet always treasure. Such an honor to have known you. The rainbows we experienced with you will be forever. Bless your good sweetheart.

#### **OBITUARY POLICY**

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization—and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the Inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

# **Barbara Cameron memorial** service this weekend

by Katie Zak Szymanski

hotographs, dance, music, and words will all help to express the life and times of express the fire and times of Barbara Cameron at a memorial service for the late activist to be held this Sunday, April 14. Ms. Cameron died at her home in San Francisco on February 12. She was 47 years old.

Born in 1954 and raised on the Standing Rock Reservation, which straddles the border between North and South Dakota, Ms. Cameron was well known for her founding of the organization Gay American Indians – or GAI – in San Francisco in 1975. She was the main organizer of the city's Les-bian Gay Freedom Day Parade from 1980-85, served on the boards of several local political organizations, who a local backers ganizations, was a Jesse Jackson delegate to the 1998 Democratic National Convention, and a may-oral appointee to the Commission o the Status of Women. A photographer and writer, she



The late Barbara Cameron in an

toured the country to share her talents for communicating and political organizing, and her work was featured in numerous publications. She traveled the world in the hopes to improve lives for others; in Nicaragua, she met with impoverished women, and in Berlin she participated in the 1993 International Conference on AIDS. Throughout 1993 she trav-eled to reservations around the United States to work with indige-nous people on AIDS education. Ms. Cameron was honored with a Harvey Milk Award for Community Service in 1992 and a

with a Harvey Milk Award for Community Service in 1992 and a LAWA award from Bay Area Career Women in 1993, but her praise was sung daily by those who knew her. A resident of San Francisco since 1973, she is survived by her life partner Linda; her son Rhys; her mother Henrietta Lind of Eagle Butte; and many sisters, brothers, relatives, and loved ones. On February 19, Ms. Cameron was laid to rest in Wakpula, on Standing Rock, the home she always loved.

Sunday's memorial service is a

Sunday's memorial service is a community event, and will be held at 2 p.m. at the offices of the Native America AIDS Project and the Institute for Community Health Outreach at 2017 Mission Street on the second floor. For more information, call (415) 552-4246. ▼



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## **Front-lines**

■ page 1

whose documents list her as rep-Queers United Against Israeli Ter-rorism, and Lesbian and Gay In-surrection, among others. She has also worked with the leftist les-bians Black Laundry, an Israeli also worked with the lettax lessions Black Laundry, an Israeli anti-occupation group. The language barrier has prevented her from directly coming out, but, "From most of us not wearing makeup, to some of us being pretty butch, it's obvious we're different kinds of women," she said.

Her first days with her host family were difficult; they know little English, and her Arabic is not at a working level. But then they tried Hebrew, of which both she and her hosts know just enough to convey basic information.

"We got so excited," she said. "It was a communication breakthrough."

There is no such thing as a typ-

There is no such thing as a typical day for Raphael; the morning of April 5, for instance, the children she stays with ran back and forth from the balcony to the family's kitchen to report how many Israeli soldiers they'd seen, a pastime that seemed to excite them.

Other mornings, the family enjoys a quiet breakfast together, waiting for word that the curfew has lifted so they can go retrieve necessary food and supplies.

Raphael's life in Berkeley is quite different, where she is a word processor for a law firm, keeps kosher, and observes Jewish holidays. She does not belong to a synagogue in the United States, however, in part because it is hard to reconcile her own belief that religion and statehood don't mix.

"Most Jews I've met are critical of the occupation but in favor of

of the occupation but in favor of the state of Israel," said Raphael. "I happen to believe that religious states are not very compatible with democracy, and not very good for LGBT people or

omen."

"But that doesn't mean I think Jews should be driven into the sea or go back to where they came from," she added. "And nobody here believes that either. Anti-Jew-ish oppression is real and the Holocaust history is tragic and needs to be redressed. But taking somebody else's land is not the way to do it. And it certainly has-

way to do it. And it certainly has-n't led to peace for the Jews." Supervisor Mark Leno, who is a self-described "ardent supporter of the state of Israel," obviously

has a different view about Israel's

has a different view about Israel's existence.

But he, too, is critical of the Israeli leadership, although he rejects the practice of assigning blame and believes Palestinian terrorists are equally responsible for the escalating violence.

"I count myself among those in the peace movement," Leno told the B.A.R. "What we've been seeing in the past few weeks and 18 months of uprising is tragic for everybody. I want to see [Israeli Prime Minister Ariel] Sharon pull back and I want to see [Palestinback and I want to see [Palestinian leader Yasir] Arafat decisively condemn and stop abetting sui-cide terrorists so that a real cease-fire can happen and real discus-sions can occur around a Palestin-

sions can occur around a Palestinian state, which would provide real economic opportunity for the Palestinian population.

"I'm very critical of both Sharon and Arafat," Leno continued, "and it's the Israeli people and the Palestinian people who are suffering as the result of the failure of their leadership."

Leno is wary of the tendency for opinions to be automatically sorted into "pro-Israeli" and "anti-

sorted into "pro-Israeli" and "anti-Palestinian" camps, and vice versa.

"It's unfortunate. A line

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# **Polarity**

#### by Jim Provenzano

ucy Jane Bledsoe's writing is so diverse, it's impossible to categorize her talents.

"I have a weird career," she

happily admitted.

The author of 28 books, ranging from children's to history, travel guides, erotica, and school manuals, her sports writing stands out for its personable mixture of athleticism, passion, and personal discovery.

Sweat: Stories and a Novella covers a wide range of women's sports stories, from first love on a softball team to hiking Sports Complex adventures. Working Parts: a Novel tells of an illiterate lesbian bi cycle mechanic's quest for love and reading skills.

and reading skills.

But her most unusual achievement may be that she is the first, and possibly only, out lesbian author to visit the South Pole.

Born in 1957 in Portland, Oregon, Bledsoe moved to Berkeley from Massachusetts to study religious studies and philosophy. She's been in the Bay Area since 1979.

An avid environmentalist, who weaves her love of Mother Earth into her fiction and nonfiction, Bledsoe won a grant from the Na-Science Foundation's Antarctic Artists & Writers Program. While the world either celebrated or panicked over the millennial winter of 1999/2000, Bledsoe took literary inspiration in a three-month stay in the company of scientists, glaciers, and lots of

penguins.

"It was an incredible experience," she said. "I spent some time at different field camps. We spent a week at the South Pole, plus a week at Cape Royds among pen-guins. I took notes, figuring out what to write about."

Her Antarctic experience led to two kids' books, and a novel, *The* Breath of Seals.

"People who work there call it e ice," she explained. "I wanted

to tell a contemporary story. It's
the last continent
that hasn't been
fully explored. Finding a story in the wilder-

ness is the greatest high."
Another high was her unusual means of transport.

"The only way to get there is to fly with the Air Force," she said. "Wealthy people hire planes, but the only official way is the military from New Zealand."

She flew in a combat plane, "a bir hollow cylinder. You sit in

big hollow cylinder. You sit in webbed seats. The Air Force workers were some of the sweetest guys." A longtime anti-war activist, Bledsoe admitted to being nevertheless charmed by the uni-

formed gents.

Not that there weren't risks to the flight. One-third of all flights to Antarctica turn around, due to weather or fuel problems.

weather or fuel problems.

Luckily, she made it in one go.
After landing, she spent days in
survival school, building snow
caves, learning how to use radios,
set up antennas, and review her
camping skills. She lived in a
dorm and traveled to field camps
via helicopter.

Wildlife was plentiful. "I
walked among flocks of penguins,
counting them and their chicks,
these cute gray fuzz balls. We saw

these cute gray fuzz balls. We saw a lot of whales, even some cracks in huge ice floes that were swarm-

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Ice storm: Author Lucy Jane Bledsoe at the South Pole.

The subject of ice cracks brings up the inevitable question: Is the planet melting?

'There have been times when the planet was this warm," Bledsoe said. Although she firmly believes that Earth is suffering from our ravages, her hosts were more skep-

Yet, Bledsoe noted that "the cople in Antarctica are fiercely defending this continent." There are places where you have to carry urine bottles to keep it pristine. "Antarctica drives the weather patterns of the world."

"I love being among scientists."

and not having to be one," she said. "They can't talk about whether animals have feelings. It's

a different way of thinking."

Some of Bledsoe's books are Some of Bledsoe's books are difficult to find, since they're sold through direct mail to schools and prisons. "They're called high-low books, for high interest, low literacy," she said. The books aid skills to specialized readers.

to specialized readers.
Bledsoe's experience in this
field, and tutoring, led her to write
Working Parts, which won the
1988 literature award from the
American Library Association's
Social Responsibilities Roundtable's Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual
Task Force Task Force

"I got involved in tutoring and worked with a couple of gay men and a lesbian, and got interested in the intersection between coming out as illiterate and as queer," she

Another recent wilderness story is set in our city's backyard. Cougar Canyon is based on her re-

search for an investigative piece for the East Bay Express about mountain lions in the East Bay hills.

"They're getting crowded out of their homes and forage in the suburbs. They're definitely in places like Livermore." Does the author see her writ-

ing as a form of activism? "I used to be worried about the idea of art being used for it," she said, "but the more I see the absolute insane craziness, all we can try to do is create things that connect people, especially in my kids' books. It sounds cliché, but we do have a connection to the Earth. That's what we need to know, to stop destroying our planet. The common thread in my work is the outdoors. I sort of got a reputa-tion for it."

Her next novel, This Wild Si-

ence, continues that theme.
"It's also about the relationship between sisters," said Bledsoe. "It's an amazing thing to have someone who knows you so well. I put the sisters in the Sierra for a wilderness weekend. Both have relationship issues. It uses survival literally and as a metaphor. I made the main lesbian character not connected to nature, so that more readers could relate. Through her eyes, things will look fresher."

eyes, things will look fresher."

On Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m., Lucy Jane Bledsoe will be speaking about her diverse career and how it has inspired her writing, at Eureka Valley's Harvey Milk Branch of the SF Public Library 1355. 16th Street at Market brary, 3555 16th Street at Market and Noe. Call (415) 554-9445 for

#### Peak at you

Seven lesbian and gay climbers will scale Nepal's Island Peak later

will scale Nepal's Island Peak later this month. At an elevation of 20,305 feet, Island Peak is known to the Sherpas as Imja Tse.

This will be the first time a gay and lesbian team has ever reached this summit. For all the rabid fans of "the gay one" on each installment of the insipid Survivor, here's a totally lesbian and gay cast, and they won't be gobbling worms for ratings.

The team is led by Angela Hawse, who's climbed mountains all over the world, her highest being the south summit of Mt.

all over the World, her highest being the south summit of Mt. Everest. Other team members in-clude Navah Levine, Jon Nor-mand, Holly Keith, Cathy Savino, Doug Dye, and Mike Boisvert. The

Their sponsor is GayOutdoors. On, and you can read more about them and other hearty Timberland-wearing outdoors for the state of the sponsor is GayOutdoors. Com, and you can read more about them and other hearty Timberland-wearing outdoors folk at that site. doors folk at that site

#### Santa (Cruz) baby

Team Tsunami is sending 65 swimmers to Gay Games VI in Sydney. Upcoming events include the Pacific Masters Swimming Short Course Championships this weekend, April 12-14, in Santa Cruz, at East Field House, at the University of California, Santa Cruz campus. For more info, visit www.sftsunami.org. For directions, visit www.pacificmasters. org/comp/02cruzscy.html. ▼

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## Horizons awards safety-net grants

by Matthew S. Bajko

n an effort to help them survive the current economic downturn, Horizons Foundation announced it had awarded three San Francisco nonprofit agencies safety-net grants this

The agency awarded a \$25,000 grant to Positive Resource Center, a \$12,500 grant to Communities United Against Violence, and a \$10,000 grant to Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center.

Women's Health Center.

"Horizons has provided key support in the past to each of these three organizations, and we are especially gratified to help support their critically-needed services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people affected

by current economic downturn," said Paula Morris, Horizons' interim executive director. "Each of these organizations is working to build private and individual sup-port in a challenging economy with an ever-growing demand for their services. Horizons' grants will provide not only urgentlyneeded general support to these organizations, but also crucial leverage in the work they are doing to build private and individual support."

The grant to Positive Resource

Center is especially timely. The agency announced in January it could be forced to close its doors \$750,000 federal grant. The an-nouncement of the safety-net grant coincided with PRC's learning it would receive a \$150,000 grant from the state Employment Development De-partment.

partment.

"Horizons is particularly pleased to be able to provide timely support to PRC during this hard time and we strongly encourage others to add their support," said Jo Hercus, chair-person of Horizons' board of di-

rectors.

All three grants were made possible through a \$50,000 grant to Horizons from the California Endowment, the state's largest health foundation, as part of its Safety-Net Funding Initiative. The program is designed to assist these organizations and communications. those organizations and commu-nities that have been most severe-ly challenged by the combination of the economic downturn and the events of September 11. ▼

# Renters rise to the occasion

by Katie Zak Szymanski

few dozen people gathered in San Francisco last Thurs-day, April 4 to mark what was being hailed as the beginning of a statewide campaign to enact protections for California's renters.

Protesting the eviction of local seniors and using personal stories to frame larger issues, the demonstrators – including queer housing activists – marched from the state building to the civil courthouse to express support for three legisla-tive bills that would enhance tenants' rights.

SB1227, by Senate President Pro Tem John Burton (D-San Francisco), passed the Assembly that morning, and was headed to the desk of Governor Gray Davis. The bill provides \$2.1 billion for affordable housing for people with low to moderate incomes.

Also on the renters' agenda is SB1403 by Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), which expands no-fault eviction notices to 60 days so that tenants have more

time to secure another place.
Finally, AB2330, by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco), allows housing security deposits to be paid in installments and used for rent in the

event of an emergency.
Sixty-seven percent of low-income households pay more than half their salaries toward rent, according to demonstrators. A minimum of the control of imum wage worker in California can afford about \$360 a month in

housing costs.
"This is an historic day for California renters," said a statement from Burton in support of the rally. "Today we are witnessing across the state the birth of a unique alliance to fight for justice

for tenants and their families.

"It's about time we see renters rising – not just rents."

## **NORML** confab

◆ page 14

with speakers Harrelson and Boaz, followed by an address by Maher. A benefit party will take place Saturday evening.
Panel topics include the need

for marijuana users to "come out of the closet," continuing legal battles, drug reform in Canada and Europe, how to avoid a pot bust, marijuana cultivation, the hearth benefits and risks of cannabis, and the legal status of industrial hemp.

This week the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeal in San Francisco.

Court of Appeal in San Francisco heard a case brought by the hemp industry against a federal regulaindustry against a lederal regula-tion that attempts to ban hemp-containing food products. The justices also heard a case by the federal government asking the court to lift an earlier order that

court to lift an earlier order that prohibits the government from revoking the licenses of doctors who recommend medical cannabis to their patients.

NORML, which bills itself as a "voice for responsible marijuana smokers," advocates for policy change related to the medical and recreational use of cannabis. The recreational use of cannabis. The

**EGAL NOTICES** 

nonprofit organization, founded in 1970, provides a voice "for those Americans who oppose marijuana prohibition and favor an end to the practice of arresting marijuana smokers." NORML lobbies legislators and supports voter initiatives related to dura voter initiatives related to drug policy reform. It's sister organiza-tion, the NORML Foundation,

tion, the NORML Foundation, sponsors educational campaigns and provides legal assistance to victims of current marijuana laws. The NORML - Foundation made news earlier this week when it ran a full-page ad in the New York Times featuring the city's mayor, Michael Bloomberg, who admitted just before entering the mayoral race last year that he had at one time used marijuana. "You bet I did. And I enjoyed it," the ad quotes Bloomberg as saying. The ad went on to note that a third of Americans said they had used Americans said they had used cannabis at some time, and pro-claims, "It's NORML to smoke pot." Similar ads are planned for subway billboards and telephone booths in New York. ▼

For more information about the conference, call (202) 483-5500 or visit www.norml.org.

## Knoller

◆ page 4

Riordan declined interviews but his office issued the following statement: "This case is now ap-proaching the new trial and sentencing stage. At this stage, we think it's critical that the focus of all involved be directed at the questions of law that will be raised by the new trial motion to be filed by the defendants. Given that, we have decided to limit our comments to the pleadings filed in the case." Ruiz's office told the Bay Area

Reporter that she would have no

An attorney for Sharon Smith, the partner of dog-mauling victim Whipple, told the *B.A.R.* that he expects that any motions for a new trial or any request to have any of the convictions thrown out

any of the convictions thrown out will be soundly rejected.
"I'm sure they're going to try to unearth every little thing they can for a new trial," said attorney Michael Cardoza. "My guesstimate, after trying cases like this, is that the judge will deny the motion for a new trial, absolutely flatass deny it. and then it will move ass deny it, and then it will move from there to an appellate court for appellate issues."

for appellate issues."

Keane believes one of the strongest issues for appeal will be information that was introduced during the trial that linked the couple with the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. Noel and Knoller's adopted son, Paul Schneider, is a member of the gang. Schneider, and his cellmate, Dale Bretches, have claimed to be the legal owners of Bane and Hera, the dogs involved in the fatal mauling. The men are serving life terms in California's notorious maximum-security Pelican Bay Prison in Crescent City, near the Oregon border.

"There is plenty of evidence for manslaughter but [Riordan] has some play in regard to that as well because Warren went too far in al-lowing that Pelican Bay stuff to come in," said Keane, a former public defender. "A court could look at that and say that was so prejudicial and it really had very little relevance as to how the



Marjorie Knoller, left, and attorney Nedra Ruiz when the verdicts were announced March 21.

killings took place that he could get

the whole thing overruled on that."

Cardoza strongly disagreed with Keane, arguing that the guilty verdicts are backed up by the facts.

"Remember the grand jury indicted them," said Cardoza, noting that a grand jury found that the that a grand jury found that the evidence and testimony backed up a second-degree murder charge for Knoller and involuntary manslaughter charges for both Knoller and Noel.

Knoller and Noel.

"Then 12 people from an entirely different county in California said 'guilty,'" added Cardoza, referring to the jury from Los Angeles where the case was moved because of the extensive pretrial publicity in the Bay Area. "I expect [Riordan] will do

what all appellate attorneys do," ex-plained Cardoza, "armchair quar-terback the entire trial, criticize everything he can criticize, hoping to overturn it. He will start with a motion for a new trial, probably saying there's insufficiency of evidence for the second-degree.

'It doesn't surprise me and it's not going to surprise me when they ask to continue the sentenc-ing date," he added.

ning date, he added.
Riordan has been involved in a
number of high-profile cases. In
1996, he successfully got the murder conviction of former San
Mateo firefighter George Franklin
overturned. Franklin was convicted based on the repressed memo-

of his daughter who said Franklin killed her childhood friend in 1969. The case generat-ed national headlines and a TV

ed national headlines and a TV movie was made about it. Franklin was released after spending more than six years in prison. In 1991, Riordan successfully got the conviction of attorney Bob Wallach reversed. Wallach was a friend of former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese. Wallach was convicted of taking money from the Wedtech Company to from the Wedtech Company to curry influence from Meese to help obtain defense contracts. The wallach case was prosecuted by former New York Mayor, then-U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani. "If there is any kind of possibili-ty of getting any kind of relief on

appeal in any case, Dennis is the guy that's going to find it," said Keane. Before he became involved in

the case, Riordan had been publicly critical of the prosecution. Hinting of another appellate issue, after the couple was found guilty, Riordan told the San Francisco Chronicle that he questioned the legality of a jury finding Knoller guilty of both second-degree murder and invol-untary manslaughter instead of

choosing one or the other.

"There's a good argument that under recent law the verdicts could be considered illegal," Riordan told the paper. "The court should have said, 'You can't give me both."

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MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255915 STATEMENT ITLE NO. 25915 The following person(s) are doing business as: \$&\$ Brothers, Company. 10.1 Utah Street #130, \$\$ an Francisco, \$c.a. 94103. This business is conducted by an Individual signed Rabinder Maheshwari. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of \$an Francisco, \$c.a. on 03/12/2002. MAR. 21, 28, APR 4, 11, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255833 The following person(s) are doing business as: Yoga San Francisco, 2269 Chestmut Street #207 San Francisco, 2269 Chestmut Signed Nancy Giftos. The registrant(s) sugnets as to conducted by an co-partners signed Nancy Giftos. The registrant(s) above listed fictilities business under the above listed fictilities business name or name on NIA. The statement was filed with name of the property of San Francisco, Ca. on 1309/2002 May 1200. on 03/08/2002. MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 255951
The following person(s) are doing business a.s. Night Crawler Production, 54 Chicago Way, SF, Ca 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed Anthony Gailleo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 31/2/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/12/2002. 03/12/2002. MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256267 STATEMENT FILE NO. 256267
The following person(s) are doing business as: Victor's Lighting 21.66 Palou Avenue, SF, C.a 94124. This business is conducted by a coporation signed Richard Stoppolan The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or names on 3/25/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/25/2022. 03/25/2002. MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256256 STATEMENT FILE NO. 256256
The following person(s) are doling business as: DPM Tutoring 1500 Norlega Street # 10 SF, Ca 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael Moy. The registran(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3725/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/25/2002. MAR. 28, APR 4, 11, 18 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256301 STATEMENT FILE NO.256301 The following person(s) are doing business as: Better Building. 1578 Innes Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Greg Freeman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 806/98. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0376/2002. 03/26/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256337 STATEMENT FILE NO. 256337
The following person(s) are doing business as: ILab Enterprises. 1519 Oak Street #7, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jason Albert Daniel Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to Iransact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/27/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/27/2002. Ca. on 03/27/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256394 The following person(s) are doing business as: Lee Van General Home Repair. 47 Rey Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nguyer Van Le. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/28/02. The statement was filled with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/28/2002. Ca. on 03/28/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256373 STATEMENT IF ILLE NU.2053/3
The following person(s) are doing business as:Spitfire Rose. 1790 San Jose Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Raeann Blagini. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed flictitious business under mannes on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/28/2002. 03/28/2002. APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

## **Front-lines**

**◄** page **17** 

shouldn't be drawn. Look at shouldn't be drawn. Look at what's happening over at Berkeley," he said, pointing to the tensions around two competing rallies Tuesday on the UC campus for Jewish and Palestinian people.

"It would be much better if those forces and young ideology could come together to say, 'We have all had enough."

have all had enough.

And he also wants to clarify that support for the state of Israel

or Palestine does not mean sup-

or Palestine does not mean sup-port for its leadership or polices. "We as Americans do not want it to be assumed we support our ad-ministration," noted Leno. "I hold George Bush very responsible for what's happening in the Middle East. He's got to take some responsi-bility and put himself on the line as the sole superpower on the planet."

the sole superpower on the planet."
Raphael, too, acknowledged that there are more nuances than some pro-Palestine activists would like to accept, and that left-ist rhetoric tends to frame Israel as being "categorically different from the rest of the world ... when in fact there are Islamic states and Christian states operating in much the same way."

much the same way."
Raphael plans to return to the
United States on April 13, and a
report-back on what she observed
is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on April 26 at the Women's Building in San Francisco.

There are few Middle East events that are devoid of politics and accusations, but some loosely organized groups around the Bay Area have started to form with the simple goal of praying for peace. ▼

# NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.256245
The following person(s) are doing business as: Nicole Renee. 1825 Pine Street #5, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nicole R. Mossman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictibious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/22/2002.

APR 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256358 STATE MENT FILE. NO. 256-358
The following person(s) are doing busine as: Anton Meeting Management. 101
Madrone Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or names on 6/13/01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/27/2002.

APR 4, 11, 118, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256357 The following person(s) are doing business as: Regents Cab Company, 1301 Sixth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Steven Anton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictilitious business name or names on 6/13/01. The statement was filled with the City and County of San Francisco,

STATEMENT FILE NO.256617 THE MENT FILE NU. 256617
The following person(s) are doing business as: Fleur't. 2550 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jonathan Rachman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names of the discussion of the discu City and County of San Francisco, Ca. 04/05/2002. APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

NAPRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALLIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.02-540180

In the Matter of the Application of Robert Joseph Michalczyk. For change of Name. The application of Robert Joseph Michalczyk for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Robert Joseph Michalczyk has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Robert Theodore Behr. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of May, 2002 at 950am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

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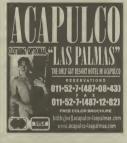
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IN THE SUPELOR

IN THE GOUNT OF THE

STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND

FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN

FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540201

In the Matter of the Application of Joseph

Michael Endsley. For change of Name. The
application of Joseph Michael Endsley for
change of name, having been filed in Court,
and it appearing from said application that
Joseph Michael Endsley has filed an
application proposing that hillsher name be
changed to Ashlar Ossiam Trystan. Now
therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed,
that all persons interested in said matter do
appear before this Court in Department 218
on the 23rd day of May, 2002 at 9:00am,
of said day to show cause why the application
for change of name should not be granted.

APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE

for change of name should not be granted.
APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALLIFORNIA IN AND
FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540195

In the Matter of the Application of Samuel
Solomon Kraut. For change of Name. The
application of Samuel Solomon Kraut for
change of name, having been filed in Court,
and it appearing from said application that
Samuel Solomon Kraut has filed an
application proposing that his/her name be
changed to Samuel Solomon Campbell.
Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and
directed, that all persons interveted in said
matter do appear before this Court in
Department 218 on the 21st day of May,
2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause
why the application for change of name
Populous 18, 2002

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APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALLIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.02-540196

In the Matter of the Application of Karen Ruth Shore. For change of Name. The application of Karen Ruth Shore for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Karen Ruth Shore has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Karyn Ruth Shore Campbell. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 21st day of May, 2002 at 900am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. change of name should not be granted APRIL 4, 11, 18, 25, 2002

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# LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO.255782 STALLEMENT ITLLE NU.205782.
The following person(s) are doing business as: Racing Garage. 1118 Howard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Eric Koon Chan and Jeffrey Ming Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 3/06/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/03/2002.

03/03/2002. APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO .256554

The following person(s) are doing business as: Michael T. Barrett L.AC. 2120 Market Street #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael T. Barrett. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed ficitious business name and april 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/03/2002.

APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256603 The following person(s) are doing business as: Suzi's Bloomers, S2 Baltimore Way, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by an individual signed E. Sue Kennedy. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on April 3, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/04/2002. 04/04/2002. APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256649 THE MENT FILE NO.256649
The following person(s) are doing business as: Grand Central Station Antiques, 1632
Market Street #A, San Francisco, Ca.
94102. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Robert McCartney. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on March 10, 1990. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0405/2002.

APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.256614 The following person(s) are doing business, as: The Exiles, 174 Chattanooga Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9414. This business is conducted by an unincorporated association other than a partnership signed Justine Stants. The registrant(s) commenced association of the stants of the stan County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04/04/2 APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002



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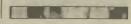
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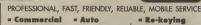
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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540212 In the Matter of the Application of Margaret Hurst Kennerly for Change of Name. The application of Margaret Hurst Kennerly for change of Sane, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Margaret Hurst Kennerly for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Margaret Hurst Kennerly has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Margaret Hurst Cliver. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 10th day of June, 2002 at 97.000, m., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. should not be granted. APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 02-540214 In the Matter of the Application of Kathryn Baird Szymanski, For change of Name. The application of Kathryn Baird Szymanski for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kathryn Baird Szymanski has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Zakary Kathryn Baird Szymanski. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 6th day of June, 2002 at 91:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. change of name should not be granted. APRIL 11, 18, 25, MAY 2, 2002

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STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 212583

NAME. FILE NO: 212583

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: The Exiles. Located at: 1350 Shotwell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110-4624. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: March 25, 1997.

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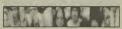
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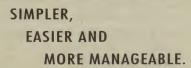
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Two premieres on pointe Wheeldon's 'Continuum,' Tomasson's 'Chi-Lin' debut.



From punk to pages Tribe 8's Lynn Breedlove on her novel 'Godspeed.' page 32



# BAY A REA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAIN

Vol. 32 • No. 15 • 11 April 2002

# eautiful lose

Andy Warhol's 'The Chelsea Girls' at the Castro Theatre



by Gary Morris

ore talked about than seen since its debut, *The Chelsea Girls*, Andy Warhol's infamous double-projected dive into a demimonde he creatinto a demimonde he created, is getting a rare theatrical revival at the Castro Theatre, Friday and Saturday, April 12-13. It's hard to imagine that this experience — it's as much spectacle as film, really — was His Pastiness' first honest-to-god cinematic success. After years of showing his movies to his methed-up Factory friends and the stray camp-follower who wandered in off the street, and perhaps because his time had simply come, Warhol was able to sell these "girls" to the hip mainstream. The Chelsea Girls was reviewed in the New York Times and Girls was reviewed in the New York Times and

many another venue, raked in a cool (for Warhol) \$300,000 in six months of exhibition, and became one of the gaudiest baubles on the charm bracelet of the urban culture vulture circa 1966.

Warhol's "methods" (a deceptive word that indicates more planning than he was capable of) are in full flower here. The idea behind the project was to film various Factory denizens doing what they did best: prattling, prancing, fondling each other, shooting up, screaming, applying makeup, confessing secrets, smacking and upbraiding each other, and all manner of other mayhem — all in takes so long that anything was possible, including torpor. Twelve 35-minute mini-movies were shot, in various rooms of the Chelsea Hotel (and a couple of apartments), with no editing, the camera ple of apartments), with no editing, the camera mostly as still as a cadaver, but occasionally twirling around a room or zooming in and out. The sound was recorded as it happened, to create

the greatest sense of immediacy and reality, and to allow the notoriously sluglike filmmaker as lit-

to allow the notoriously sluglike filmmaker as lit-tle involvement in the process as possible. Some of the reels are color, some black-and-white. The stars were among Warhol's most super: Gerard Malanga, Ingrid Superstar, Mary Woronov, International Velvet, Marie Menken, Eric Emer-son, Mario Montez, Ondine, and a few others. The original cut ran over six hours, so Warhol and Paul Morrissey decided to commercialize it by com-bining the six 35-minute movies into pairs. In an bining the six 35-minute movies into pairs. In an innovative touch that must have been as thrilling to projectionists as it was confounding to viewers, the former were corralled into the artistic process, permitted to decide the order of projecting the run with sound and which without.

The effect was exhilarating, one of the defin-

## SF Int'l Film Festival's new Director of Programming Carl Spence Helming the festival by David Lamble



how me yours, and I'll show you mine. Whenever two film buffs meet for the first time, there is a kind of anxious pawing at the ground until each is sure that they have something appropriate to bond over. Or mather not totally ampropriate mather. thing appropriate to bond over. Or maybe not totally appropriate, maybe some dirty little secret about a first love that you don't quite cop to anymore, but that was the doorway into film love and all that followed. As the new Director of Programming for the San Francisco International Film Festival, Carl Spence wasn't sure how to answer this seminal question. Then I confessed that I was a big Disney freak as a kid, right up until I saw The Shaggy Dog with Fred MacMurray, which led to a viewing of MacMurray's last adult film and my first as a fan, Billy Wilder's magnificent triple Oscarray's last adult nim and in the last adult nim and in the Billy Wilder's magnificent triple Oscarwinner, The Apartment. Suddenly,

Spence is ready to share.

"That sort of sparked an odd memory. As a kid, I probably grew up watching some bad Disney movies that I don't know if I should admit to watching now, like Jodie Foster in Freaky Friday [a 1979 comedy in which Jodie and co-star Barbara Harris are able to switch personalities for a day] and The North Avenue Irregulars."

regulars."

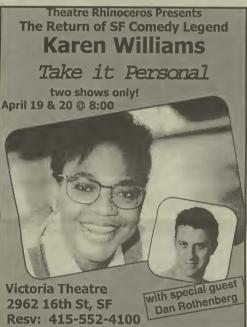
Taking a deep breath as if what he was about to confess were truly terrible, Spence added, "I'm really part of the Star Wars generation, and that was one of the first films that had a major impact on me. I worked in a video store for quite some time, so I sort of have this Quentin Tarantino school of filmmaking. Then I discovered foreign films and the works of people like Lars von Trier [Breaking the Waves] and Agnieszka Holland [Euthe Waves] and Agnieszka Holland [Europa, Europa]."

Spence actually backed into film by way of music and theatre. Starting off playing the piano and the cello, he soon chafed at the social restrictions that came with the territory. "To practice classical music, you have to be alone a lot." A good teacher turned him onto theatre, which carried him through a BA in Theatre Arts and Japanese (aptly, one of his faves at this year's festival is Shunji kaya's exploration of Japanese cyberpop, All About Lily Chour-Chou) at the University of Washington, followed by a stint studying film at NYU. Spence has made several non-narrative short films, a passion he may someday pursue more passion he may someday pursue more

After a brief stint as a concert and performing arts producer at UW, he came into his own as a film programmer during eight years with the Seattle Inter-

page 31 ▶





#### by Roberto Friedman and Mame Phiss

here's nothing quite like cel-ebrating your 90th birthday in high style, and that's just what granddaddy of gay liberation and new nonagenarian Harry Hay did last Sunday. Hay arrived for his festive birthday party at SF's freshly minted LGBT

party at SF's freshly minted LGBT Community Center with his EMT nurse Kitty "Sticky" Wickets in tow. Now that's what we call tender loving care. No word on whether Kitty was required to blow Harry's candles out.

In case you missed Hay Day at the Holmes Campus, you can catch SF filmmaker Eric Slade's documentary Hope Along the Wind: The Life of Harry Hay when it plays the 45th San Francisco International Film Festival, April 21 & 25 at the Kabuki. This portrait of a Founding Father of both the Mattachine Society and the Radical Faeries seems quite at home Mattachine Society and the Radical Faeries seems quite at home on a double bill with the Oscargarnering short film *Thoth*. Dancing queen S.K. Thoth in his gilt loincloth and high-heel sandals could be a poster-boy for Hay's vision of queer America.

#### Heartbreak hotel

He ain't nothin' but a homo hounddog? Tabloids both webby and pulpy were abuzz last week with revelations that writer **David Bret** was bandying about the King himself, **Elvis Presley**. In his newly published Elvis: The Hollywood Years, Bret claims that Elvis' greedy manager Colonel



By

Farce!



Harry Hay arrives at SF LGBT Community Center with Nurse Wickets

**Out There** 

Tom Parker blackmailed him into contract slavitude by threat-ening to leak reports of his gay dalliance. "Parker held secret

information about a homosexual affair be-tween Elvis and actor Nick Adams over his head like a sword. He made it clear that if Elvis didn't toe the line, he'd let it get out," said Bret, mixing metaphors madly

"At that time, it could well have ruined his career. That's why Parker had so much control over him."



Was young Elvis in the closet?

In this scenario, young Elvis' gay obsession with movie star James Dean and the film Rebel Without a Cause led directly to his man-on-man hook-up with Adams, who was a featured player in the film. "Adams claimed that in the film. Adams claimed that he had a brief affair with Elvis after Elvis 'agreed to be his date' for a preview of Nick's 1956 film The Last Wagon." Is this where Elvis the Pelvis got that faggy hip-

swivel?

And the gay revelations don't end there! Bret claims Elvis tried unsuccessfully to get Adams cast in his first movie Love Me Tender. In 1958, "Adams and Elvis stayed in the same hotel room in New Orleans while Elvis was filming King Creole there." Of course, all the speculation about homosex is the speculation about homosex is mere scuttlebutt and hearsay. Still, we do wonder who the older, Fat Elvis hankered for.

#### **Hurray Caen**

The abundant hoopla in newsprint and saloons last week about late great three-dot maestro
Herb Caen proved once and for
all that there's nothing this town likes better than a dead newspaper columnist. Of course, Out There will always treasure Caen's

ill always treasure Caen's legacy: who else in print could get away with an item about pigeons attending the SF Opera for the opening of "Verdi's Foulstuff, underwritten by Charles Squib?"

But the three-ring Chronicle Caen circus also reconfirms the outside world's

the outside world's worst suspicions about our little burg — namely, that we're endlessly nostalgic about some mythical San Francisco past, more than a little bit self-involved, and something of a cultural backwater with fabulous views. San Franciscans have long had to put up with this reputa-tion, however deserved or not, so

tion, however deserved or not, so we may as well grin and bear it. Thus we let ourselves give in to the mawkish necro-worship during public whiskey wallows at Moose's, in the Caen Days extra section and KRON special, and in Caen's vintage columns that have been running alongside decidedly non-vintage ads. After all, this artful raiding of the Chron's vaults was a welcome distraction from the living, breathing columnists on inside pages.

on inside pages.

The special feature we liked best was the Caen write-alike conbest was the Caen Write-alike con-test, which only confirmed that the ability to deliver clever or cut-ting remarks in print is not the ex-clusive province of those who reg-ularly have column inches to fill. But the exercise also got us thinking: Would anyone ever enter a write-like-any-current-Chronicle

write-like-any-current-Chronicle columnist parody?
If, for example, you were attempting to parody a particular Datebook columnist, you'd have to begin, "Everything we know we learned from television," because that's how the real McCoy always leaded A cartain from the book. that's how the real McCoy always leads. A certain front-of-the-book columnist parody would need to include a little whining about not being able to park, a little shopping at IKEA, and a little humiliating story about being hit on by drunk frat-boys in the Marina. And we're sure we don't have to tell you whose column parady. and we're sure we don't have to tell you whose column parody would periodically be interrupted by pricing info on Mission burri-tos (with guacamole, \$6.95!)

#### Smudge pots

Or if you wanted to write a parody of the Out There column, you could blither on to the point

next page

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# **Existential drag**

## 'Waiting for Godot' in Rhino Studio

by Richard Dodds

f you are going to endlessly wait for Godot, it's best to do it as a drag queen. That's the (probably) inadvertent message of a new production of the Beckett a new production of the Beckett classic that turns all the characters into gay caricatures. The Creatus production, directed by Kimberly Richards, is now in Theatre Rhino's Studio.

Rhino's Studio.

At the start of each act of this Waiting for Godot, Vladimir and Estragon, all dolled up, are taking their bows to the strains of a

brassy Broadway score. This un-defined drag performance pre-cedes the material that Beckett ac-tually wrote. Although the exis-tentially depleted characters still moan about the tedium of their meaningless lives, at least these in-carnations of Didi and Gogo look to be having some fun at night. Of course, that does tend to undercut

course, that does tend to undercut Beckett's message just a bit. Yet once the characters begin speaking Beckett, much of it seems quite natural coming from the mouths of bickering old queens. After all, their scenes often play out like an old comedy rou-

tine, and in some ways this be-comes more poignant in the con-text of aging homosexuals who are cut off from the rest of the world.

Kim Larsen as Estragon and Neal Shorstein as Vladimir take their job of playing dizzy serious-ly, and generally find the meaning in Beckett's words. However, there are times when the gist gets lost in the silly-queen deliveries, and the play loses the energy of its relent-

If you're going to turn Vladimir and Estragon into drag queens, it isn't much of a leap to conceive of Pozzo and Lucky as a queens, it isn't much of a leap to conceive of Pozzo and Lucky as a leather daddy and his slave. Even as written, Pozzo carries a whip and leads Lucky around by a rope attached to his neck. The bearish Jonathan Gonzalez effectively plays Pozzo, and Michael Patrick Gaffiney is wonderfully woebegone as Lucky, especially when he blossoms for a rapid-fire monologue of nonsense philosophy. Israel Toro manages, barely, as the boy who brings messages from the mysterious Godot.

Waiting for Godot both gains and loses in this high-concept approach. Just remember to pack your wig and makeup if you're planning a trip to an existential desert island.

Waiting for Godot will run at Theatre Rhino through April 21. Tickets are \$15 and \$18. Call 861-5079.



Kim Larsen (left) and Neal Shorstein are Waiting for Godot in drag.

## **Out There**

previous page

of vapidity, extolling the beauty of Brit expat crooner Morrissey, which in fact we're now going to do. That's 'cause we're in on the US launch of The Smiths and Beyond, a new collection of Smiths, Morrissey and Marr photos by music photog Kevin Cummins (Vision On). As Smiths fan Danny Kelly attests in his introduction, Cummins is "no ordi-

Morrissey pieces the puzzle, 1991.

nary smudge." His pictures for the New Musical Express introduced the Smiths to the world in 1983, as they flopped about aesthetically for his lens on the grass in Tat-

If yor his lens on the grass in Tatton Park, Manchester.

The book captures for posterity Cummins' photos of the band who saved the world from British music in the early '80s, a scene Kelly accurately describes as "horrible boys with sculpted hair and tiny keyboards." The pics don't dawdle on the glory years, going right up to Morrissey's '91 post-Smiths tours in Tokyo and Dublin. The Moz, of course, would soon give up on Britain entirely and move to Los Angeles, the better to be stalked by individuals well-known to our art department.

#### A rare kind word

We know we're frequently snarky about Chronicle columnists, because, hey, that's our job; however, we can't help but praise former Chron art critic David Bonetti, one of many talented writers from the pre-Fang Examiner who were wasted on the new iner who were wasted on the new Hearst Chron. Bo's decision to depart from the Datebook is a loss not only for daily readers, but for the Bay Area art world, which has been stirred and shaken from its propensity for provincialism by his perspicacious criticism. Full disclosure: DB has been a FOT (Friend of OT) for more than a decade, so we know from person-al experience that he'll soon be on to bigger and better things.





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# **Getting everything right**

## Wheeldon's 'Continuum' has ring of brilliance

by Michael Wade Simpson

hen the MacArthur Foundation goes on a genius hunt, what exactly are they looking for? In dance, one would assume the million dollars would go to someone whose work stands go to someone whose work stands out from the pack, makes you see things in a new way, takes every-thing that has been done before-hand and changes it. Choreogra-pher Christopher Wheeldon may still be too young to be an official genius, but works like Continuum for the San Francisco Ballet, which premiered at the Opera House last week, will definitely put him on the

radar screen in a big way.

A British dancer who put his time in with both the Royal Ballet and New York City Ballet, where he learned his Balanchine very well indeed, he was recently appointed resident choreographer of Balanchine's company, a dance-world honor comparable to being appointed High Cardinal in Vatican City. And he deserves it. Continuum had that ring of authenticity and brilliance

ring of authenticity and brilliance that gives you hope in an often-repetitive form. Wheeldon made ballet look like a reason to live. The music, by the late-20th-century composer György Ligeti, is a series of keyboard works picked by Wheeldon from books of etudes, sonatas, four-hand of etudes, sonatas, four-hand works and even a piece for harpsi-chord. The greatness of the choreography was revealed in the way

the movement took difficult, often dissonant music, and made it dance. This was austere, but never unapproachable. There were sharp and jagged moments to go with the score, but also a reto go with the score, but also a re-curring bow to gravity. As the music faded into silence at the end of several of the sections, the dancers were often sinking to the ground in the most striking ways. For an art form that is historical-ly about the defiance of gravity, this continual giving-in was not only surprising, but touching. The eight dancers in the piece looked confident and clear, every

looked confident and clear, every slicing arm and trip to the floor done with great conviction. Certainly these performers rival the New York City Ballet dancers in their technical mastery and pure delivery. In a stripped-down "leo-tard" ballet, in the manner of Bal-anchine, there is no place to hide. No smile or dramatic intensity will rescue a dancer from the demands of this choreography. But the San or this choreography. But the San Francisco dancers were beyond re-proach. If Wheeldon were to take over this company, with these dancers, history could be made. The other star of the piece was the lighting, by Natasha Katz. She managed to separate the moods of the various movements with a

colored cyc (backdrop), but also added provocative touches with the absence of color. Wheeldon's amazing endings were often mir-rored by lights that closed in. Huge shadows were created in

one movement; in another, a strip of red along the bottom of the black backdrop made the dancers' use of the floor all the more inuse of the floor all the more in-evitable. All in all, Continuum is a keeper, perhaps a classic of the new century. It certainly gives hope for the talents of a major new choreographer.

#### Groom room

L'Arlesienne, a Roland Petit ballet circa 1974, opened the pro-gram on Saturday night. The fas-cinating twist to this story ballet was the fact that one of the main characters never appears on stage. In the middle of a wedding, in the opening scene, the groom runs off, as if in a flashback, to look one last time for someone else, someone lost. His true love is apparently gone, and he, obviously, will never recover. He dances badly, he stares off into the upper balcony rather than into his beautiful bride's eyes, he can't even manage to make love. In front of a Van Gogh-style sun, and with a cast of villagers wearing prim black-and-white, Petit chose to present this non-romance to some very fa-mous, familiar, danceable music, Bizet's L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2. Ex-

cept there's not much dancing.
The ballet reads as very French, and not chic Parisian French, either. More the French of repressive Catholic towns, mime-influenced storytelling, and cynical attitudes towards love. The jilted wife,

page 30 ▶



SE Ballet dancers David Arce and Julie Diana in Wheeldon's Continuum

# She brakes for unicorns

## Yuan Yuan Tan in 'Chi-Lin'

by Stephanie von Buchau

iven that David Henry Hwang's M. Butterfly was about a French diplomat who slept with a Chinese opera star for years without realizing that the singer was a man, it's not surviving that the way of the surviving that the singer was a man, it's not surviving that Hwang's subtow. prising that Hwang's subtext — how Western men eroticize and ex ploit Asian women - was somehow lost in the logistics of two men having sex while one of them thinks he is shtupping a female. Possibly because I am a woman,

or because as an opera-lover I was horrified by Hwang's deliberate rewriting of Puccini (he has Pinkerton claim that Butterfly wants to be treated badly), I found the exploitation theme fascinating and was disappointed when it seemed to get lost in the diplomat's

obvious homoerotic confusion.

I don't think that all Western I don't think that all Western men want to exploit Asian women, and I'm positive that was the furthest thing from Helgi Tomasson's mind, but I can't deny feeling queasy at the San Francis-co Ballet last week during Tomas-son's new piece, Chi-Lin, made expressly for SFB's Shanghai-born ballerina, Yuan Yuan Tan. Any-body who reads me on ballet knows that I admire Tan. I saw her American debut in *Nutracker* when she was still a gawky teen, all arms and coltish legs. I suspected then that if she filled out and had the right training, someday she'd be amazing, That day came for me a lot sooner than it did for others. Until Tan took London by storm a few seasons ago, there were still a few seasons ago, there were still naysayers in the local press and

within the company.

By now, however, everybody realizes that Tan's musicality, her endlessly pure line and those liq-uid arms are the foundations of a uid arms are the foundations of a dance personality that manifests itself in movement, not in the grimacing that some dancers call "acting." Every time someone says, "But she's cold" (or worse, "inscrutable"), I want to whap them upside the head and tell them to look again. There was nothing cold about Tan's self-possessed bride in Bugaku, or her righteously innocent Desdemona. Though she is still very young, she has successfully danced major page 34

page 34 ▶



Tan dances in Helgi Tomasson's Chi-Lin, created for the SF Ballet.



# **Gossamer wings**

## 'The Glass Menagerie' seen anew at Geary

by Richard Dodds

ennessee Williams provides very astute advice to any actery astute advice to any actress planning to play Amanda Wingfield. "Her characterization must be carefully created, not copied from type," Williams wrote in his production notes for *The Glass Menagerie*. The challenge is to create a unique life force whose every gesture, inflection, and attitude is still utterly believable.

Robin Moseley, in her ACT debut, has created such a character, and her performance provides

ter, and her performance provides a good deal of the reason for re-visiting Williams' "memory play" from 1944. This is a steelier Amanda than the fluttery creature

that often emerges, a choice that adds a realistic resonance to a play that is tangled in gossamer web-

bings.
Williams also used the production notes to give future directors considerable leeway in realizing his vision, a freedom that unfortunately some directors invoke. It's understandable, of course, for adjrector to want to bring somea director to want to bring some-thing new to the table, but *The Glass Menagerie* is so nearly per-fect that any tweaks almost always seem gratuitous.

Fortunately, at the Geary Theater, director Laird Williamson mostly controls himself, putting his energies into the complicated relationships as they play out in a succession of bijou-like scenes. Still, he does overextend a magic metaphor spoken early on by the narrator, Tom, while the occasional unscripted materializations by the Gentleman Caller before his second-act scene are more distracting than anything else.

Tom Wingfield, a sullen young dreamer stuck in a dead-end job, is a role inspired by Williams himself, though it's not the play's most inspiring role. This enigmatic observer is there to shine light on his

server is there to shine light on his mother, Amanda, whose promis-ing beginnings went bitterly awry, and his sister, Laura, whose life is achingly devoid of any promise. But Tom is still our entryway

But Tom is still our entryway into this world, and one wishes Joey Collins seemed more a part of it. Most off-putting is an accent that belies his gracious Southern roots, working up a Gomer-like drawl that turns "said" into "say-ud", "Jim" into "gee-um", and "program" into "pro-gray-um". Collins has no lack of energy, but the focus is fuzzy.



Robin Moseley as Amanda Wingfield and Joey Collins as her son Tom

Heidi Armbruster is a bit heartier than most who play Laura, but she delivers when she Laura, but she delivers when she needs to — especially in her heartbreaking scene with the Gentleman Caller. Neil Hopkins is agreeable, if a bit bland, as the Gentleman Caller

Overall, this is a fine production of *The Glass Menagerie*, prob-

ably the only play I can see again and again without any dimming of anticipation or appreciation. ACT helps keep that candle alit.  $\nabla$ 

The Glass Menagerie will run at the Geary Theater through April 28. Tickets are \$15-\$61. Call 749-2228.



Jeffery Roberson as the deranged Varla Jean: a loose collection.

# Diva with spraycheese

'Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman' at NCTC

by Richard Dodds

or those who have never ex-perienced the unhinged world of Varla Jean Mer-man, her current compendium show at the New Conservatory Theatre Center is an excellent place to start. But for those who have previously enjoyed the con-siderable talents of Jeffery Rober-son, the deranged diva's alter ego, The Very Worst of Varla Jean Mer-man may feel like a recycled expe-

rience.

Most people reading these pages know that Varla Jean is the offspring of the brief marriage between Ernest Borgnine and Ethel Merman. Now a totally self-obsessed and self-imagined superstar, Varla Jean combines the sincerity of Diana Ross, the taste of Charo and the self-awareness of Charo, and the self-awareness of

Roberson imposes a haphaz-ard instructional theme on this loose collection of parody songs, comic videos, and patter with the audience. "Knowledge is like a drug," Varla Jeans tells us, before adding "not a very fun one" in one of her overheard asides to herself. Many of the laughs are still here, but freeheer is wennied. but freshness is waning.

Among the previously seen attractions: the video of Varla Jean's "Hello Kitty" pilgrimage to Tokyo, her mock-operatic interpretation of "Disco Inferno," a genital variation on "Talk to the Animals," and, of course, the ritualistic con-sumption of a can of aerosol

cheese.

Whether they are newer bits, or just previously unseen by me, there is less invention in a mock-operatic (again) version of "White Rabbit," an unclear parody of Schoolhouse Rock, and a lesser video satire of chain-smoking set to the tune of Faith Hill's "Breathe."

Roberta Damke at the drums

Roberta Damke at the drums and Tom Shaw at the quanto—
"The Mermanators," Varla Jean
calls them — provide the spirited
accompaniment. Phillip Heckman's eat-your-heart-out-Bob-Mackie costumes are another asset to a show that hopefully finds Varla Jean ready to explore new heights of show-business' lower depths. ▼

The Very Worst of Varla Jean Merman will run at the New Conservatory Theatre Center through May 4. Tickets are \$25 and \$30. Call 861-8972.





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## **Chelsea Girls**

■ Arts cover

ing moments in the artistic history of the decade. But the avantry of the decade. But the avant-garde production style wasn't the main attraction for most viewers. Warhol's scrapes with the law for films like Couch (which featured hardcore sex) created a panting audience dying to see The Wigged One's latest opus. That it could be seen at respectable venues like New York's Regency Theatre (where it premiered) made it that much sweeter. And if The Chelsea Girls didn't show penetration Girls didn't show penetration (there is full-frontal male nudity for schlongspotters), it did offer some unforgettably camp tableaux of S&M dykes, hustler tableaux of S&M dykes, hustler queens, phony popes, mute chanteuses, hopheads, and all sorts of other chattering miscreants engaging in every kind of antisocial activity imaginable.

One of the most memorable sequences belongs to the queen with the Renay hear. Ordine Me

sequences belongs to the queen with the Bronx bray, Ondine. He decided to be "the Pope of Greenwich Village," taking the "confession" of Warhol's alleged favorite, the brainless, shrieking, drugdrenched Ingrid Superstar. Ondine is a powerful presence here, eloquently expounding on his many duties as the Pope in one breath, and screeching his hatred of the Church in the other. In a hilarious extended dialogue, he accuses Ingrid of being a lesbian—"I've seen you at Page Three and a lot of other dyke joints!"—while she alternately denies and while she alternately denies and embraces the idea, as the mood strikes her. "You're a subspecies, my dear. You're not even a veg-etable!" he screams.

Inevitably, the pressure of 35 minutes of improv, even for the self-consumed Ondine, proves too much, and when another woman enters the scene and denounces him as a phony, Ondine verbally and physically assaults her. Ondine's demand that the camera be stopped after he loses control were met with a bland but incontestable denial by Warhol, whose decision to keep the camera running at all cost produces some disturbing effects. Throughout the film there are moments where his refusal to stop the camera, his encouragement of the stars' hunger for the spotlight at any cost, skirts the sadistic. Per-haps skirt is too tame; Warhol binaps sant is too dank; wanno brographer Victor Bokris mentions that "To turn the pressure up, Andy and Paul [Morrissey] would plant rumors about unpleasant remarks someone had made about someone else."

#### Supreme preen

Warhol's subtle sadism is matched frame for frame by the unrepentant narcissism of his su-perstars. That was one of the hall-mark characteristics of this crowd, though the films' ability to make extreme self-absorption in others both fascinating and funny is a miracle in itself. In one of the sequences, suicidal diva Nico is sequences, suicidal diva Nico is seen in a kitchen with a kid and Eric Emerson, the masturbating mute queen in *Heat*. Nico, in choker close-up, makes primping into an art form, silently, and sadly it seems, trimming her fringe, studying herself in the mirror nosing and preening to energy to proving and preening to energy. ror, posing and preening to ener-vating effect. It shouldn't be too surprising that the quiet wreck onscreen later killed herself. An-other masterful narcissist from Warhol's stable, Mario Montez, Warhol's stable, Mario Montez, appears as a beleaguered, heavily mascaraed housewife, chatting in her mindless manner to a middleaged pervert who fondles a passive, underwear-clad hustler. "I'm just a housewife, that's all," she



Mario Montez (left) as beleaguered housewife, with Patrick Fleming

says, eventually breaking into tears in the outré manner of a silent star under siege, while the distracted perv demands the queen return some supposedly stolen property.

Commentators have made much of the "meaning" in the jux-tapositions of what's happening tapositions of what's happening on the left and right screens, but it's difficult to support such-claims, since it's the projectionist who chooses the pairings, and what one person sees may be entirely different at the next screening. More quantifiable are the oppositions that occur within the frame of a particular sequence. Frequently in the Warhol (and then Morrissey) canon, there's a pairing of two distinctly different ypes, a harridan (often a queen or a fag hag) with a beautiful, narcis-sistic, indifferent male. *The Chelsea Girls* has several such scenes, most effectively a bizarre ménage of the gorgeous Gerard Malanga, who has to defend his supposed marriage to "Hanoi Hannah" (Mary Woronov) to his alleged mother, played by Marie Menken. While Mom fumes and Menken. While Mom furnes and screams, denouncing him as a hippie and saying Hannah is trash, Malanga barely reacts. Hannah, looking dapper in a white shirt and tie, smolders silently in a corner. Menken is one of Warhol's few grande dames, but one of several of his troups who can main. eral of his troupe who can maintain a harridan pose seemingly forever, impervious to all notions of good taste or restraint.

Drugs, especially methedrine,

were a crucial component of this crowd, and they're everywhere in *The Chelsea Girls*. Both Ondine and Brigid Polk shoot up in their sequences, with Ondine doing so

ritualistically, while Brigid uncer-emoniously sticks a needle through her blue jeans. Drugs, too, may be at the heart of some too, may be at the heart of some of the more passive performances here, like Malanga's or, in the Marie Menken sequence, Woronov's. Woronov has one of the most thrilling scenes, as a butch dyke who sadomasochistically abuses Ingrid Superstar, who's curled up under a desk, sometimes pouting and sometimes yelling back at Woronov or International Velvet. Woronov is a rarity in the Warhol canon; with rarity in the Warhol canon; with her geometric face and wolfish smirk, she seems quite unintimi-dated by the camera's relentless gaze, never breaking down as On-dine did. With her thrilling con-tralto, she's also a superb screamer, another common trait among the Warholians.

The Chelsea Girls was one of Warhol's last pure art-films (in the style of Empire, Sleep, etc.) before collaborator Morrissey's business-minded ways took over ousniess-initiated ways to see and created the more commercial "Warhol films" — Lonesome Cowboys, Trash, Heat, etc. — that maintained some of the art and made much more money. The made much more money. The film was greeted warmly at the time in most quarters. To Newsweek, it was "the Iliad of the Underground"; the Village Voice read it as a metaphor for "burning Vietnam." Not everyone agreed, of course; Rex Reed called it "a three-and-a-half-hour cesspool of vulgarity and talentless confusion which is about as interesting as the inside of a toilet bowl." Warhol might be the last to object to might be the last to object to Reed's analogies of cesspool and toilet bowl, but surely those are jewels floating around in there.

## L'Arlesienne

◆ page 28

danced lyrically by Lucia Lacarra, gave things the ol' college try, but her beloved, Pierre-Francois Vilanoba, was a candidate for anti-depressants if ever there was one. Music would be booming with dance melody, and Mr. Sadface would be standing still, or performing a quirky folkdance, or letting the villagers push him towards his betrothed. To say that he wanted out is an understatement. wanted out is an understatement.

Petit created a work that may not include great dancing, but of-fers limits and quirks that seem perfectly in character. Never once does a dancer break into a ridiculous bravura section just to wow the audience. Instead, we get rows of black-garbed peasants doing clunky folk dances in non-folk spatial arrangements, to saxo-phone. It's all very interesting, like

a dance-theater piece. Or a late-20th-century French ballet. How jaded we've become about love. Death of a Moth, by local chore-ographer Val Caniparoli, complet-ed the program. Here was some rather generic choreography and music that stayed at one turbulent pitch throughout, telling a story. pitch throughout, telling a story that the choreographer claims was that the choreographer claims was inspired by imagery from Virginia Woolf, Annie Dillard and Barbara Kingsolver. It probably should have been a piece of fiction rather than a dance, because whatever Caniparoli intended to display, the results was been than a control of the co paroli intended to display, the result was less than scintillating. The ballerinas wore long skirts that they kept fluffing like moth wings, there were winged video projections, and men in black t-shirts and pants. Let's face it, there are not many creatures as dull as a moth.

SF Ballet box office: (415) 865-

# **Black Irish**

## 'Borstal Boy' released

by Brandon Judell

onfessions of an Irish Rebel was Brendan Behan's auto-biography, which he was too drunk to write. While residing in New York City, he rambled out the shenanigans that made up his life into a tape recorder. Then he died, a terminal alcoholic, before its publication at age 41

died, a terminal alcoholic, before its publication, at age 41.

The 1965 work begins with Behan's release from a young man's reform institution where he had been forced to wear short pants. At age 16, he'd been imprisoned for conveying dynamite

## **Carl Spence**

■ Arts cover

national Film Festival, during which he was proud to kick off the world premieres of Terry Zwigoff's Ghost World and Tim Ewigoti's Ghos's O (Shakespeare's Othello set in a modern American high school). Spence is particularly proud of Seattle's track record as an American launching pad for

as an American launching pad for a score of indie and foreign films. Spence concedes that his sense of humor is on the quirky side, and this, combined with a distinctly Northwestern cultural outlook, explains his championing of the Ontario-born but Vancouverbased Canadian filmmaker Bruce Sweeney (Dirty, Live Bair), whose comic exploration of a trio of West Coast Canadians, Last Wedding, gets its American premiere West Coast Canadians, Last Wedding, gets its American premiere at SFIFF, Spence's appreciation for how humor works in a genre setting can be viewed in the German My Brother the Vampire (aka Getting My Brother Laid).

Noting that's he's logged in a lot of time hanging out at Frameline's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, Spence contends that the International tries not to compete with Frameline or program film

with Frameline or program film merely by genre, so that the queer film fare that does turn up (such as the pioneering documentary Daddy and Papa) must resonate emotionally as a film first and foremost.

continuing another tradition, there are 28 French films at this year's festival. Spence's predecessor (technically, the job title and description have changed some-what), Artistic Director Peter Scarlet, could recite the Paris Scarlet, could recite the Paris phone book and make you feel it had a plot, a dramatic arc, an au-teur, and a denouement, with per-haps a coup de grace thrown in for good measure (and Scarlet's pronunciation would be sure to include the proper *coup de glotte* or glottal catch before accented vowels.) Spence is far more laid back, but just as enthusiastic a French cineaste.

cinéaste.

"There's a small film called *The Milk of Human Kindness* [Dominique Cabrera] that deals with a woman who just loses it one day and walks out on her family. And the new [Andre] Techine [Far Away] that is set in Tangiers and deals with themes of love, set against the backdrop of illegal drug-smuggling and immigration, has a male lead, Lubna Azabal, who's quite good, quite goodlooking, and really drives the film."

Look for our preview of SFIFF '02 in next week's BAR.

from Ireland, having planned to blow up some Brits for the IRA.

He notes of his release: "For the first time in over two years I put on long trousers. They felt very awkward as if I was wearing two blankets round my legs, but it was smart enough I'm sure. The only trouble was that the flannels were a bit tight, and I had it in were a bit tight, and I had it in mind not to come in them." That's pure Brendan. Essayist. Play-wright. TV celebrity. Literary drunk. Swaggering shockaholic. When asked whether he would

When asked whether he would like tea or coffee, he roared, "Do you call that a drink?"

Borstal Boy, the bawdy book that brought him international fame, tells of his two years in that aforementioned institution: his naive view of the world, his sudden envelopment in a group of "enemy" Brit boys his age, and his gay trysts.

gay trysts.

Peter Sheridan's film of those 24 months is a startlingly lovely yet brawling *tour de force* that cap-



Brendan (Shawn Hatosy) pins his best pal in jail, Charlie (Danny Dyer).

tures much of Brendan's rebel song, caustic wit, and love of his homeland. Also, his sexual confu-

sion. When told that Oscar Wilde was homosexual, Brendan (Shawn Hatosy) replies: "He's no Irishman

if he was up to that caper."
Then, when an openly gay sailor who's also his best pal in jail, Charlie Millwall (Danny Dyer), comes on to him, Brendan gently protests: "I'm not queer. I like girls."

But the two finally kiss, and a grand, classic smooch it is. This still, of course, leaves time for Brendan to make a play for the daughter of the institution's Governor (Michael York) and fall in love with Wilde.

So was Behan gay? After all, he later married. According to Christopher Howse in a 1994 piece for the Sunday Telegraph, Behan's "inclinations were homosexual; his drinking self-destructive." In his later years, his fame rested on "getting drunk on television and soiling his trousers in Fleet Street."

Maybe if an Irishman could be

Maybe if an Irishman could be up to that caper, Behan might not have needed so much drink.

have needed so much drink. Maybe not. Either way, this beautifully acted film is a must-see for romantics and fans of Oz. HBO's Oz, that is. ▼

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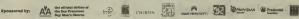
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# **Lynn Breedlove rules**

## 'Godspeed' takes genre to new heights

by Rachel Pepper

ynn Breedlove is the front-woman for that well-loved San Francisco institution, the dyke punk band Tribe 8. It turns out that in-between touring with the band, road shows for Sister Spit, and running her all-girl bike messenger service Lickety Split, the ever-talented Breedlove was also working on a novel, just published. Godspeed (St. Martin's Press, \$ 24.95) tells the story of jim, a dyke bike messenger who rides through the streets of the city, picks upchicks, hangs with the hags, travels cross-country with a band ynn Breedlove is the frontels cross-country with a band suspiciously like Tribe 8, and ultimately finds shaky self-retimately finds shaky self-re-demption back home in SF. In anyone else's hands, the subject of drug addiction could be de-pressing, but Breedlove manages to make Jim's story both haunt-ing and hilarious. Full of life and longing, Godspeed is a great ad-dition to the urban queer literary

a recent interview Breedlove was frank and on the record about the creative process, lesbian strippers, and butches who become boys.

Rachel Pepper: Hey Lynn, when and why did you start writing Godspeed?

Godspeed?

Lynn Breedlove: Back in 1993,
I had just gotten clean. I was excited about riding and about
Lickety Split all-girl courier,
which I had just started. But I
was stuck all day in the oneroom office, where I also lived.
Kathy Acker was teaching a class
at Edinburgh Castle, so I took it,
and that's when I wrote the first and that's when I wrote the first

Did you make some money sell-

Yes, I got a good advance for a first novel. It all went to pay bills left over from Lickety Split,

How much of this story is auto-biographical, and how much of you is in Jim?

you is in Jim?

Jim is made up of thoughts and feelings I have had. And many deeds and misdeeds. It's a confession of sorts. I never really lived that way, but I was an addict and a dealer, then I became a polyamorous messenger after I got clean. Some of the things Jim does are really things others have done, like the cab robbery, or the throwing of the mustard jar, or the fights she won. And pretty much all the drug parts are true. much all the drug parts are true.

How does your character Jim identify?

Jim doesn't have a name for what she is. I often refer to her as him when talking about the novel, because he passes as a boy and feels like a boy.

How did the book grow and change during the course of its inception?

Inception?

It started out as a catharsis, then a documentation of my love for Anna Joy, my girlfriend of five years, and then on the Sister Spit tour in '98 it became a tour journal. Then I had to interview people about violence, because I had never actually kicked ass, but by then I wanted it to become a road to empowerment, rapture, and self-realization.

Do you think the average lesbian reader might be scared off by some of the topic matter in God-

I hope not. Most lesbians weren't scared by Tribe 8 at

Michigan, and hopefully that's 5,000 lesbians who will buy it

How does your music influence your writing?

I have a certain rhythm when I write prose. I write about some of the same things in song as well as prose. Music is my life, and so of course punk music and culture show up in my writing.

Is the band that Jim tours with

Yes it is, with a few twists. The lead singer in the book is a big femme, and as you know, I am no femme

next page ▶



Breedlove confesses all to the BAR

REVIEW

## Ride with the devil

by Katie Zak Szymanski

arly reviews of Lynn Breedlove's first novel have suggested its signifi-cance is based on the storyline of a drug-addicted lesbian bike

have suggested its significance is based on the storyline of a drug-addicted lesbian bike messenger surviving in the underworlds of San Francisco and New York.

"Godspeed is the most important novel this side of Naked Lunch," says author Judith Halberstam of the book's release. "Imagine The Odyssey set to loud punk music and featuring a tough butch hero on a quest for her stripper girlfriend."

Don't believe it. The lead singer for the lesbian punk band Tribe 8 and spoken-word artist as featured with the troupe Sister Spit has indeed put forward a worthy piece of literary work. But innovation tends to thrive outside confinement, and the brilliance of Godspeed, while propelled by its characters' lives, is not dependent on its plot, or even its premise that the world revolves around tattooed jobless lesbians on the run. And with all due respect to Burroughs, Breedlove's book goes far beyond the disassociation and science of addiction, redefining not only gender and culture, but how thought itself should be conveyed upon the page.

This was apparent even at a brief reading as part of the Harvey Milk Institute's Arts and Lecture Series on Thursday, April 4. Godspeed, published by 5t. Martin's Press, would celebrate its release that night to the tune of an all-star lesbian/FTM lineup and a packed house at San Francisco's new LGBT Community Center.

The evening's genderfucked punk theme was set early on, with Breedlove's fellow Sister Spitster Sini Anderson picking up microphone frequencies through her nose ring, and transgender hip-hop poet Marcus Rene Van sputtering the rhythms of marginalization. But this was Breedlove's night, with a table set up for autographs and a slide show providing a glimpse of the images that propelled her groundbreaking work from life onto paper.

The hero of Godspeed, a lesbian named Jim, has something to say about everything in a way that has never before been said, and doesn't apologize for assuming you understand.

"The preat thing about history is it makes you whole," Jim muses while



# **Native themes**

## Wolfe Video's new DVD releases

by Alex Robertson Textor

hree recent Wolfe Video DVD releases all feature Native American characters. Each of these films is characterized by indigenous as well as queer themes. Given the fact that a big piece of interest in DVDs resides in special content, these DVDs do deliver their share of new and unreleased footage.



Percy Adlon's Salmonberries, Percy Adlon's Salmonberries, originally released in theatres in 1991, was k.d. lang's first feature film. She plays Kotz, an androgynous Inuit miner. In the film, set largely in the Arctic Circle town of Kotzebue, Alaska, lang's character is obsessed with the town's German librarian, Roswitha (played by Rosel Zech). The film centers on the relationship between the by Rosel Zech). The film centers on the relationship between the two women, as well as their individual efforts to achieve peace with their own histories. The two women share an erotic charge but never move into a sexual relationship, a fact that frustrated many queer viewers when the film was first released.

The DND includes a long die.

first released.

The DVD includes a long discussion between director Adlon and lang about the film, a photo gallery set to the soundtrack, and the video of k.d. lang's song "Barefoot." The discussion between Adlon and lang is interesting for lang's detailing of her resting for lang's detailing of her resti ing for lang's detailing of her resistance to Adlon's direction as much as it is exciting to watch the two spar and interact with each other.



Thomas Bezucha's 2000 film **Big Eden** was a huge gay and lesbian film festival winner, pulling in festival awards at the Cleveland International Film Festival, a Jury Prize for Best Feature at the Miami Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, and audience awards at six queer film festivals. Arye Gross (of Ellen fame) stars as a successful gay New York artist who returns to rural Northwestern Montana to take

care of his ailing grandfather.

Big Eden turns on the active involvement of the Montana town involvement of the Montana town in the work of matchmaking Henry and Pike, the owner of a supply store and market (played by Eric Schweig). Its counterintuitive depictions of a rural mountain community's investment in a gay male friendship provide a twist on its otherwise Norman Rockwellesaue small-town aest Rockwellesque small-town aes-

The Big Eden DVD's special ontent includes a short docu-mentary, bonus footage, director commentary, a series of inter-views, and, perhaps most ger-mane given the role of food in the film's foregrounded courtship,

Johnny Greyeyes, directed by Jorge Manzano and released in 2000, is the first feature film ever



to focus on Native American lesbians. It stars Gail Maurice as Johnny Greyeyes, and Columpa Bobb (previously of the successful

Bobb (previously of the successful CBC drama North of 60) as her girlfriend Lana. The film is set largely in a prison. It establishes the prison as a site of caring as well as deprivation and violence.

Though many reviews of Johnny Greyeyes read its intended realism as depressing, the film's emotional landscape is deep and riveting. If this is a "depressing" film, it is also one that prompts deeper forms of audience identification forms of audience identification through its character and rela-tionship portrayals. Set in Cana-da, it is also full of cultural refer-ences to Canada that cannot be assimilated to US experience and life.

Johnny Greyeyes was an official Sundance selection and was also nominated for the Best Picture prize at the 2000 American Indian Motion Picture Awards, where Jorge Manzano also won Best Di-rector. Unlike the other two DVDs profiled here, *Johnny Greyeyes* does not feature much in the direction of special content outside of the film's trailer.

These films are quite divergent from one another, but all offer eninfoling insight into personae and landscapes infrequently seen on screen. Johnny Greyeyes and Salmonberries are now available; Big Eden will hit retail at the end of April.

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## Lynn Breedlove

◆ previous page

I found your passages describing trannies and the character Max,

trannies and the character Max, who is transitioning to male, really great. Did you make a point of including Max?

I did make it a point. I think folks need to be educated about gender a little. But I didn't want to be didactic, so I didn't make Max a run-of-the-mill tranny. I wanted to show that there as wanted to show that there as many ways to be trans as there

I notice you bring up the issue but stay away from the controversy of girls who take testosterone. Why do you think so many butch girls

want to become boys?

We are products of our society, and we live in a binary gen-der system. It's hard to expand the number of boxes from two. When you're butch, you find yourself passing, and then you have to use the Men's Room. Then it becomes tempting to pass all the time, rather than deal with homophobia. Also, some femmes unwittingly shame butches for not being manly enough. Then they complain that all the butches are becoming men. I do tell younger butches they should think about why they want to transition, do research, and sele alder transitions about and ask older trannies about their experience. I wouldn't want kids to think there's a quick fix for problems we all have being queer and transgendered.

Much of the sex in Godspeed takes place in bathrooms and back alleys. Why?

Jim is a fag at heart. He hangs out on the street and in bars.

He's a spontaneous, instant-gratification guy. So where else would he do it?

How much of this is based on

row much of this is based on personal experience?

I've done it in public, it's nerve-racking! I worry about cops, since when I was 17 I got pulled over for driving erratically while fucking my 23-year-old oilfriend.

Any favorite public sex spots in

San Fran you'd care to mention?
I hear Dolores Park is jumping these days

How many strippers have you dated, and what's the appeal?
Eight. They're usually high femme and super-sexy, flirty, take-the-initiative kind of babes.

Why are there so many lesbian

Why are there so that strippers? It's easier to separate your work from your love life.

Why do you think this world of urban dykes and strippers is so rarely captured in lesbian fic-

tion?
Isn't it? Folks do write about it in On Our Backs quite a bit. I think I put a little more romance in it than the pornos, and the romance novels don't put enough porno in. And I guess most punk dykes don't have time to write novels. I only do because I have to write or I'll die.
I'm going on a book tour all over the US. It's a one-woman, no, one-man, no, one-freak show, a multimedia event featuring the photography and music of

photography and music of women and trannies. It rocks. It's called *The Philosophies of Jim.* ▼

www.tribe8.com/godspeed

# All the news that's fit to slant

Lavender

by Victoria A. Brownworth

he escalating violence in the Middle East is this season's most frightening Reality TV show. Watching this week we realized that not since Bill Clinton and the Lewinsky sex scandal had we witnessed the awesome power of TV to skew historical perspective on an event.

To Sick with a propective on an event.

Post-September 11, anti-Semitism has been re-popularized in the US. (It's always been popular everywhere else in the world, which is in part why Israel was created in the first place.) There were the rumors that the WTC bombings were a Jewish conspiracy. That ludicrous theory was debunked by the State Department, but the link between US diplomatic support for Israel and Islamic nations' hatred of Israel and its guilt-by-association extension to the US brought other anti-Semitic rumblings to the fore. As is

generally true for queers as well, nobody likes the Jews; just as many people who would never consider using the word "nigger" feel little compunction about using the term "faggot," there's a large segment of an otherwise literate and political-

wise literate and politically correct population that is deeply anti-Semitic. And as with all xenophobia and racism, it doesn't take much to make it surface.

Which explains, in part, the disturbingly anti-Semitic

ly anti-Semituc slant the news has taken in the past two weeks since daily suicide bombings in Israel prompted Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to declare his own Bush-style war on terrorism, sending tanks into the West Bank to round up any and all who might fit the ethnic profile for a terrorist. Let us simply say for the record that we disagree with Sharon's tactics and find him personally reprehensible and detrimental to the survival of Israel. That said, we see little difference between the Israeli declaration of war on the survival of the said subsets.

terrorism and subsequent incursions into
Palestinian sectors
and the US war on
Afghanistan, although TV news
draws no such paral-

Nor does it contextualize the Israeli response. In

sponse. In March, 450 people were killed in Israel as a result of terrorism. In ratio to Israel's population, the number of civilians killed in the latest *intifada* are exponentially higher than the 9-11 tragedy. But these facts have not been part of the news coverage.

Tube

Nor are they likely to become so because the news, morning shows and newsmagazines on the three major networks have focused attention on Palestinian and Muslim responses to the violence, but have basically ignored the Israeli/Jewish perspective. Shows like Nightline and Politically Incorrect, usually quite balanced in their representation, have repeatedly enjoined the Muslim perspective while the lewish perspective while turning tasin tarfact into a beleaguered elder statesman.

The truth conflicts with this slanted TV coverage. Sharon may

The truth conflicts with this slanted TV coverage. Sharon may have instigated violence in the region with his hard-line politics and policies, but Arafat is also far from a diplomat. On the verge of martyrdom though he might be, Arafat is no hero. He was himself a terrorist until a decade ago, and many facts point to his sponsoring terrorism today. For over a decade, Arafat has sat at various

bargaining tables seeking redress for wrongs claimed by the Palestinians and has rejected every offer of land for peace. Like hardliners on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including Sharon, Arafat has no desire for peace. In fact, the only thing Arafat and Sharon appear to share is their mutual hatred for the very idea of peace.

#### Tragic coverage

It is not only this disparate treatment that raises the question of anti-Semitism. It's also the casualness with which Israeli casualties have been treated, the virtual ignoring of a spate of attacks on synagogues throughout Europe since the incursions began, and the manner in which the news itself is relayed. Numerous shots of tanks crushing all in their path tell a singular (and slanted) tale, that of a morally bankrupt nation out to crush its neighbor. Then there are the videotapes, endlessly replayed, of two recent suicide bombers, both teenage girls. One, in her white Muslim headdress, looks like a prototype of the Virgin Mary, while another, her head swathed with the same style scarf as Arafat, looks the part of the beautiful young resistance fighter. The message: Israelis = violence, Palestinians = tragic.

The message israels – violence, Palestinians = tragic.

These images are used to inflame and provoke, and do. As does TV news from the region itself. Al-Jazeera, the largest Arablanguage TV network in the Middle East, often seeks to inflame an already restive audience with egregious lies about Jews, such as reportage on the use of the blood of Christian and Muslim children by Iews during Passover.

by Jews during Passover.

Nor is Israel blameless in the skewing of news bytes. Censoring of local TV stations has been strict in recent weeks. Footage of an attack on the home of a Palestinian family and the subsequent death of the young mother was aired two weeks ago to devastating audience response — and further crackdown on local TV stations. During the incursions into the Palestinian areas in recent weeks, the Israeli government has re-

stricted access by foreign journalists to the areas under attack, and Israel is currently under a virtual news blackout about what is happening in the area.

pening in the area.

The first casualty in war, it is said, is truth. In the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, truth (or at least, the facts) have been either censored or ignored. The function of TV news is to tell the story that is there, not the story one divines to meet one's propaganda needs. The horror in the Middle East is tragic, but its continuation is not inevitable. A round of censorship, however, can lead to many rounds of vituperative response.

of vituperative response.

Though the majority of the news has focused on the Israeli-Palestinian tinderbox, the other story that won't go away is that of pedophile priests. Where a year ago no TV station would touch the story, in the last week alone, every major network focused hardnews time on it, as well as newsmagazine time, and, of course, Oprah.

Certainly this is a timely and important issue, but far from the only issue, and here, too, the news is disturbingly slanted to accommodate that age-old (and wrong) theory that pedophile and homosexual are synonymous terms. More than 60 percent of children molested by priests were female, yet it is only the male victims being reported upon on network news, the tabloid talk shows, and even *Oprah*. As we noted earlier, no one much likes queers or Jews; both remain fair game.

The news will never be unbiased but that's the goal to work aged but that's the goal to work and the property of the goal to work aged but that's the goal to work aged but that's the goal to work and the property of the property of the goal to work aged but that's the goal to work and the property of the property of

The news will never be unbiased, but that's the goal to work toward. The reporting on the Middle East and on pedophile priests shows that goal far from grasp at present.

Finally, let's end with a little

Finally, let's end with a little touch of ironic humor. In the oh-how-the-mighty-have-fallen category, let us say that we remember rock artist Patti Smith as a symbol for our generation of the gender-bending alternative world that is sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. Thus imagine our surprise to see her on Regis & Kelly, Live. What's next, an album of lullabies or songs for your cat? Stay tuned.







## 

roles such as Aurora, Giselle and Odette-Odile. She's demonstrated a comedic bent, a marvelous sense of style (Tan in a red dress is worth the price of admission even if she doesn't dance) and an affinity for Balanchine

It she doesn't dance) and an attinity for Balanchine.

Obviously, Tomasson thinks highly of his Chinese ballerina. He created roles for her (Pandora Dance and Silver Ladders) and let her dance Nanna in the ballet he made for his departed muse, Elizabeth Loscavio. Pressed with the need to create a work for the 2002 season, Tomasson came up with the idea for \*Chi-Lin\*, to music by Shanghai-American composer Bright Sheng (who conducted the premiere). Chi-Lin is the Chinese unicorn, a mythological creature (not a white horse) that represents all goodness and compassion.

unicorn, a mythological creature (not a white horse) that represents all goodness and compassion. Without reproducing authentic Chinese movement from the Peking Opera or other dance styles, Tomasson still managed to incorporate typical head and shoulder gestures, as well as flexed feet and the little shuffling steps that scream chinoiserie. And here is where I started having problems

with Chi-Lin. The co-opting of ethnic dance is a minefield that makes the Cambodian plains look like the parquet floor on a basketball court. No matter what you espouse, you are sure to ruffle someone's liberal or illiberal feathers.

#### Girly girl

The bottom line for me has always been, if it works I don't care
about the ethnicity of the performers or the accuracy of the
source material. Yet there is so
much baggage attached to the
Western man/Asian woman combination that it is impossible to
avoid thinking about what it
means. Did the audience cheering
for Tan in Chi-Lin think she was
being exploited? I doubt it. (They
also could have been cheering for
the fireworks; more on that in a
minute.) Did Tan think she was
being exploited as she minced
across the stage, wobbling her
head in stereotypical girly Asian
fashion? I strongly doubt it. Yet I
felt she was being exploited.

felt she was being exploited.

If Chi-Lin had a strong dramatic profile; if it had been about affairs of the heart or soul, or if it had contained spectacular choreography, one could overlook the uncomfortable feelings the movement

next page

# Limousine reflections

Argentine director Juan José Campanella

by David Lamble

uan José Campanella is a man on the go. Our conversation about his new film, Son of the Bride, unfolds in the back seat of a limousine. In two days he'd learn whether his Bride would get to go home with Oscar, for best foreign-language film. It didn't, but as we talked, this news, like the ever-falling Argentine. like the ever-falling Argentine peso, was still in the future and therefore not depressing. In di-recting the officially nominated Argentine film, Campanella (a 19-year US resident) is not unlike longtime expatriates who formed Olympic bobsled or downhill ski teams for such hotbeds of winter

teams for such noticeds of winter sports as Togo or Jamaica. The hero of Campanella's film, the "Son" of Son of the Bride, is a 42-year-old workaholic named Rafael (the rakishly handsome Ri-Rafael (the rakishly handsome Ricardo Darin — picture Joe Mantegna about the time he was spirting out Mamet in House of Games). Competing for his attention and a piece of his wallet are an exasperated ex-wife, a much younger girlfriend, a daughter resigned to savoring her parents as different courses on an every different courses on an ever-changing menu, an aging father who's obsessed with the notion of remarrying his own wife, and fi-nally, the would-be "bride" her-self, Norma (Norma Aleandro), whose Alzheimer-shadowed life contains tantalizing glimpses of a contains tantalizing glimpses of a once-strong-willed woman, whose impossibly high expectations still shadow Rafael. Like his once-prosperous fellow countrymen, he's left wondering, "What have I done to deserve this?"

Settling back in his plush limo seat, Campanella explains why so many recent Argentine films feel like they were co-written by Alan

like they were co-written by Alan Greenspan. "When the govern-ment freezes your bank account, it becomes a dominant theme in your conversations," he jokes. "It's a strong reality that's very hard to avoid, even if you're doing what could be described as a romantic/dramatic comedy. It's like making the most mundane com-edy in New York on September 13th, you know, and not talking about the World Trade Center. It would be an impossible thing." As the San Francisco skyline disappears in the rearview mirror, I

hesitate to remind my companion that most New York-based films



Juan José Campanella on the set of his comedy Son of the Bride

shot before 9/11 were either shelved, reshot, or had scenes of the Trade Center digitally removed. In a moment of reflection, Campanella adds that both his and the previous generation of Argentines "inherited a rich country, and we just sold it so we could drop out."

#### Church chat

Before I can hum a chorus from Tom Lehrer's "Vatican Rag," we transubstantiate into Son of the Bride's refreshingly cantless take on the Catholic Church. As I remark on the American priests-diddling-altar-boys dustup, Cam-panella reflects on the inevitabilipanelia reflects on the inevitability of an Argentine lampooning the Church. "I'm half-Italian and half-Spanish, so I'm Catholic, can't get away from it no matter where I look. On the other hand, where I look. On the other hand, in many places in the world, what men did with the religion has not always been what I think Christ would approve of. In the history of our country, the Church has consistently been on the wrong side of the issues."

A pivotal scene in Son of the

A pivotal scene in Son of the Bride unfolds in the office of the local bishop, as Rafael and his falocal bishop, as Kafael and his fa-ther (Hector Alterio) ask about the price of a church wedding. The priest stops them dead in their tracks with his categorical opinion that he cannot marry a woman with Alzheimer's, even to the man she's already married to

she's already married to.

Campanella notes that despite its importance as an institution, most Argentines are familiar with the image of the fat (meaning cor-rupt) priest and hold the Church in low repute. Regarding Church

efforts to mediate in the country's financial crisis, he remarks that it may be a case of a leopard changing his spots: "You change a little so nothing changes on their part. We'll see."

We'll see."

As we approach SFO, I probe Campanella for the current state of gay visibility in Argentine media, particularly in film. He notes that gay images aren't especially prominent, although a major talk-show host is openly gay, and it's no big deal. Campanella adds that his star, Ricardo Darin, has a long history of producing and starring in offbeat, including gay-themed, plays such as Lovel Valour! Compassion! and A Taste of Honey.

During the country's financial

During the country's financial meltdown, Campanella says, demonstrators have become quite imaginative (and even a little gay) in their efforts to mock the government that let them down. Durernment that let them down. During a big demo outside the National Bank, which froze everybody's bank accounts, the crowd got downright campy. "The National Bank is a huge, classical 19th-century building, rococo, and they made this huge balloon, you know like the Thanksgiving Day Parade balloon of Snoopy, with the shape of a penis, with big testicles and everything, that 20 people had to carry with rope; and they started ramming it through the door of the National Bank. It was hilarious, but at the same time, what better but at the same time, what better criticism than that?" ▼

Son of the Bride opens Friday.

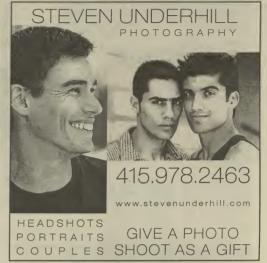
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evoked when the unicorn was dancing. But it wasn't about anydancing. But it wasn't about anything except co-opting decorative Chinese mythological critters. Chi-Lin had three cohorts — Dragon (Yuri Possokhov), Phoenix (Parrish Maynard) and Tortoise (Damian Smith, with whom she danced a languid, underwater pas de deux.) And, because choreographically it wasn't about anything but exploiting this beautiful Asian women's exquisite body, feet, arms, neck and posture, Tomasson arms, neck and posture, Tomasson himself obviously felt the need to add theatrical elements.

add theatrical elements.

So we had four incense pots at the four corners of the stage that stopped smoking about halfway through the 30-minute piece and then erupted in fireworks at the end. Scrolls were unrolled and flags unfurled. Backdrops dropped and

rose under a colorful Chinese corrose under a colorful Chinese cor-nice. Concubines with drooping sleeves waved their arms. The prin-cipals wore golden diapers, all of these designed by Sandra Woodall, who, as far as I am concerned, gets way too much business from SFB. The fireworks were really the nadir, however, a totally unnecessary Smuin-like touch that underlined

Smuin-like touch that underlined the fact that Chi-Lin was the most theatrically gaudy, choreographically impoverished thing Tomasson has done here.

Except, of course, for Tan's solo (actually a pas de cinq with four boys) in which her glorious arms, unbeatable extensions and flawless arabesque fought with and conquered the mincy, submissive, M. Butterfly stuff. Because she is a dancer — not a female, political dancer — not a female, political or ethnic symbol — Tan managed to remain pure and unsullied by the nonsense surrounding her, above it all and deserving every cheer.



# **Calen**dare

# **Freshmen** slayer

he's a 15-year-old queer-identified high school student in Portland, and she's just written the Catcher in the Rye of her generation.
Holding a copy of Zoe Trope's Please Don't Kill the Freshmen (Future Tense s, Portland), you can hardly call

the thing a prop-er book, since it's put together more like a 'zine, more like a 'zine, stapled and fold-ed, very low-end — and yet it's the perfect format for capturing Trope's devastat-



ingly sarcastic, brutally honest wit and insights. Trope supplies the ultimate insider's view of modern high-school life. Forget

view of modern high-school life. Forget every sappy, superficial post-Columbine TV exposé you ever saw. Here you get the unvarnished, poetic truth. Trope's jaundiced eye bores into the people and institutions that make her life a misery, all the while keeping track of the fleeting beauties that make everything and everyone else more-or-less bearable.

everyone else more-or-less bearable.

Trope's world is a micro-cosmos of bitchiness, boredom, and brilliance. She explodes it from within, not with dynamite, but with literary bombs, creating the escape opening from insufferable puritanism and rigid conformism high schoolers have been clamoring for.

Trope's characters are real-life people with names changed, among them: Linux Shoe ("freshman. best friend. homosex-pull. beautiful has made me cry many.

ual. beautiful. has made me cry many many times"); Braid Bitch ("Case Boy" temporary girlfriend...smiles to murder the people she loves. fucks with her teeth wide open"); Fishsticks ("English teacher wide open ); PISISICES (Engins feature with pedophilic tendencies, also known as the blonde Beck wannabe"); and Wanka Boi ("freshman. very fifteen. listens to angry music. . . . has completely random moments of blue-eyed beauty")

random moments of blue-eyed oeauty / Everyone gets skewered. No one, not even those she most prizes, walks away unscathed. Some do, however, get scathed more than others: "I pity the pretty little Mormon

girls. Their mouths always curl up in disgust when they walk past me. The thought bubble above their head reads, 'My dear lord! What a heathen!' Bitch. A conservative Baptist with big blich. A Conservative Baptist Will Jug feet asks Wonka Boi, '(hushed embar-rassed plead) What's-an-orgasm?' I cackle delightedly. Who will be the real heathen when her 48-year-old pastor knocks her up?"

knocks her up?"
"I don't understand girls who —
wait, nevermind, I just don't understand girls. Especially the ones who
smear their faces with brightly colored
crap every chance they get. I want to
shove that lipstick pencil into her eye."
And: "I would like to comment on
my friends and how they fuck. No, not
with their cocks and cunts, but with

my friends and how they fuck. No, not with their cocks and cunts, but with their mouths. Their tongues flail aimlessly and they laugh and talk, but nothing is ever really said... I turn my head to my Linux Shoe and cry, but my tears never hit the Formica table."

Said Trope to a queer San Francisco audience at the Main Library recently: "My [school] administration just kind of wishes I would go away. I'm kind of a big hassle to them."

Amen to that! 

#

## Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, **Oakland**

Comedy benefit for the Campaign for Equali-ty, the Political Ac-Campayin for Equality, the Political Action Committee of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, the largest LGBT organization in the East Bay. Featuring comedians Diane Armos ("The Pine Sol Lady"), Aundre the Wonderwoman (Russian River Resort; Brainwash, SF), Julia Jackson (Cobb's and Punchline in SF; Improvand Comedy Store, LA), James Judd (Groundlings Theater; Star Search; SF Comedy Competition), and Nick Leonard (co-producer of Comedy Monday Night Cay Comedy Monday Night Cay Comedy Showase). \$15. Quomedy Monday Night Gay Comedy Showcase). \$15. Doors open 7:30pm; show 8-10pm. 1650 Mountain Blvd. (at Thornhill), Oakland. No reservations required. Info: (510) 466-5050.

## Jon Sims Center for the Arts

AIRspace Artist-in-Residence Kevin Ottem-Fox performs a workshop production of "AN-DROGNYKKA! The Hello Tour!!" This bizarre cabaret Tour!!" This bizarre cabaret play takes a breezy look at God, civil war and bad musical comedies. Ottem-Fox is the author of 10 full-length plays and numerous one-acts. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & S. Van Ness. Tix/info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

Actors Theatre of SF Actors Theatre of SF presents Nicky Silver's The Altruists. The play revolves around a dedicated, disorganized group of young radicals who end up

or young radicals win end up framing a young runaway prostitute, Lance, to protect a key activist after she kills her boyfriend. \$25 (\$7 off for stu-dents/seniors; Thursday is pay what you can). 8pm Thu.-Sat.; 7pm Sun. Thru May 18. 533 Stutes \$4. (thus Powell & Sutter St. (btwn Powell & Mason). Tix/info: 296-9179; www.actorstheatresf.org

#### **EXIT** Theatre

EXIT Theatre
Opening night: Genghis Productions in association with
Studio 300 presents
"Michelangelo Did This?" a
new, scathingly dark comedy
by New York playwright
Howard Hain, wherein Renaissance master-artist
Michelangelo is reincarnated
as a putz living in lowa. He
sneaks down from heaven to
seduce his soul's current incarnation, the 19-year-old innocent-eyed son of a baker.
Somehow this leads to comic
diatribes touching on the
pains of spectating, the necesdiatribes touching on the pains of spectating, the necessity of war, the misunderstood nature of manure, our creative need to pillage and more. Featuring Nick Scoggin as Michelangelo. Directed by Shari Carlson. \$16-\$20. 8pm. Thru May 11. Tix: 981-6444; ticketweb.com; sf-



#### Cafe Du Nord

"Writers With Drinks," an eclectic mix of spoken word

stylings that run the gamut and throw down the gauntlet! Featuring Kirk Read (How Learned To Snap), Dana Cory (Goomedy; Dojo Fabuloso), Candice Hern (The Bride Sale, Miss Lacey's Last Filing, The Best Intentions), Simon Sheppard (Hotter Than Helf), Rudy Rucker (Spaceland), Charles Anders Hell), Rudy Rucker (Spaceland). Charles Anders (The Lazy Crossdresser, web-master of godhatesfigs.com) MCs and vamps. \$3-\$5 slid-ing. Doors open at 5:30; show 6-8pm, 2170 Market St. (at

Zeta Chapter @ SFSU Singer/songwriter Sacha
Sacket (Alabaster Flesh) performs at a benefit concert for
GLSEN — the Gay Straight
Student Education Network
— hosted by the Zeta Chapter — noste of ythe Zeat Grapter of Delta Lambda Phi, the national gay fraternity. Sacket's compelling musicianship on keyboard and vocals have earned him a large and growing following who appreciate his emotional honesty, his grappling with issues of masculinity and courage, and his unique song stylings. GLSEN helps promote awareness and tolerance of gay and lesbian students within middle and high schools across the country. \$5, 8pm. The Cantina in Mary Ward Hall, SF State University. All proceeds will be donated to GLSEN. Info: email DLPZETASF@aol.com. of Delta Lambda Phi, the na-

#### Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, **Oakland**

In concert: Barbara Price
Productions presents Vickie
Shaw, a seasoned comedian
who hilariously addresses the
triumphs and trials of being a woman, a mother and gay in America. Once she opens her

Faux Queen 2000 Windy Plains shows off at Klubstitute Kollective's 7th salacious "Faux Queen Pageant" at Slim's. See Sunday. mouth, you'll have no doubt she was born and raised in Texas, and you'll never stop laughing. \$20 adv.; \$23 door. 7:30pm. 1650 Mountain

**Lavender Seniors** of the East Bay

Oakland, Tix/info

(510) 339-1832; www.vick-

of the East Bay
Lavender Seniors, a group for
gays, lesbians, bisexuals and
transgenders over the age of
55, hold their monthly
potluck at noon. The group
also seeks volunteers of all
ages to work with socially isolated seniors. Rides from
BAPT available. Free (Print) BART available. Free (bring dish). 12pm. San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info: (510) 667-9655.

#### Marin Center, San Rafael

The Ali Akbar College of The Ali Akbar College of Music presents a gala tribute to Ali Akbar Khan in celebra-tion of his 80th birthday. Fea-turing the living legend born in 1922 in East Bengal (Bangladesh), master of the sarode and founder and sarode and founder and teacher at the college in San Rafael. With Pandit Jasraj (vocals), G.S. Sachdev (bam-boo flute), Sisirkana Chowd-hury (violin), Chitresh Das (kathak dance), Zakir Hussain (tabla), Swapan Chaud-huri (tabla), Aashish Khan

(sarode) and Alam Khan (sarode). \$30, \$40 & \$60. 7pm. Marin Veterans Auditorium, Marin Center, San Rafael. Tix: (415) 472-3500; www.aacm.org/fest.html

Join other outdoors lovers for a Phoenix Lake to Lake Lagua Phoenix Lake to Lake Lagu-nitas hike. Enjoy lush green trees, waterfalls and great views. It's a moderate 8-mile hike with a 500-ft. elevation gain. Meet 10am at Longs Drugs, Bon Air Shopping Center, Larkspur. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

Slim's
Klubstitute Kollective presents the 7th salacious "Faux
Queen Pageant" for drag
queens trapped in real
women's bodies. See a gaggle
of girly-boy girls and fabulous
she-male impersonators. Help
benefit Women's Community
Clinic and SF Sex Information. Celebrity judges: Birdie
Bob Watt, Fairy Butch,
Machiko Saito, Adrian
Roberts, Lu Read, and Ruby
Toosday. MGS" Deena Daverport and Laiseze Le Chat,
Virgin Queen VI, DJ Jamez
spins tunes. Live music by



#### SF Hiking Club

#### Slim's

one of the modern gerns of Ja-Area cultural life, presents the popular Nagano-Reiss-Hersh Piano Trio performing works by Dvorak, Schumann and Ives. They'll be Joined by violinist Dan Banner and vio-

violinist Dan Banner and vio list Paul Ehrlich to perform Dvorak's Terzetto for 2 vio-lins and viola and the most beloved of all Schumann's chamber music, his Piano Quintet. Featuring Joan Nagano, piano, Craig Reiss, violin, and Julian Hersh, cello. \$12 (\$8 tudents/se-niors). 4pm. 1021 Sanchez St. (at 23rd St.). Tix/info: 648-5236; www.nvcm.org.

Moonlife (glam and glitter synth-pop band). Featuring performances by reigning Faux Queen Windy Plains and Virgin Queen 2001, Michele.

Contestants will be judged on Drag, Talent and Personality.

rag, Talent and Personality.
Audience members can
vote bonus points by tipping their favorite
fauxs. \$8-\$25 sliding (NOTAFLOF).

Doors

at 9pm. 333 11th St.

(btwn Folsom 8 Harrison). Info: 331-1500, ext. DIET (3438).

Noe Valley Ministry Noe Valley Chamber Music, one of the hidden gems of Bay

#### Sundance Saloon @ King St. Garage

"Sundance Saloon 4th An-niversary Party," with enter-tainment, plenty of two-step-ping and line-dancing, hot cowboys and cowgirls, and souvenirs for all. Countrysouvenirs for all. Country-western dance lessons 6-7:30pm; open C/W dancing and entertainment 7:30-11pm. Admission free. 174 King St. (near 3rd St.). Info: 699-5764; www.sundancesaloon.org

#### Club K.Y. @ Amnesia Bar

Amnesia Bar
Club K.Y. First Anniversary
Party, celebrating one year of
indie/punk/queer rock in the
Mission. KY was started in
April 2001 by friends Spike
& Mike, two SF queers fed up
with the lack of clubs for
queer punks, rock & indie
fags/dykes and gender-benders, and with the apathetic
tone of the San Francisco
queer scene. Jacob later
joined as the third DJ. Also
premiering The Y-Files, a new
zine featuring band interviews, political commentary,
music charts, reviews, art,
and opinion pieces from Club
K.Y. regulars and other K.Y. regulars and other queer/indie/punk characters. 10pm-2am. 21+w/ID. 853 Valencia St. (at 20th St.)



## @ The Center

@ The Center
"Q Comedy Showcase," Monday Night Gay Comedy featuring Darrick Richardson,
hosted by Maureen Brownsey,
with Dana Cory, Blake, Ronn
Vigh, Lisa Geduldig, Nick
Leonard, and Bridget
Schwartz. \$5-\$15 sliding,
Doors open 7:30pm; show at
8pm. Ceremonial Room (4th
floor), LGBT Community Center. 1800 Market St Tir. ter, 1800 Market St. Tix



Nick Scoggin and Joshua Duthie play a reincarnated Michelangelo and an innocent-eyed lowa boy at EXIT Theatre. See Friday.

vww.harveymilk.org. Info: vww.QComedy.com

#### Herbst Theatre

Herbst Theatre
"Some Enchanted Evening,"
a benefit concert and reception for the SF Performing
Arts Library & Museum (SF-PALM), featuring the elegant
song stylings of Jazz vocalist
Wesla Whitfield, with Mike
Greensill and musicians.
Tonight's concert, dedicated
to the music of Richard
Rodgers, is held in conjunction with the SFPALM exhibition "With A Song in His bition "With A Song In His Heart: A Celebration of Richard Rodgers, opening Tuesday. \$50/\$35 concert only; \$150 concert & recep-tion. 8pm. Tix/info: 255-4800; www.sfpalm.org

# ue

#### **SFPALM**

Opening: "With a Song in His Heart: A Celebration of Richard Rodgers," an exhibi-tion curated by Sheryl Fla-tow. This major retransaction tow. This major retrospective traces the life and career of traces the life and career of Rodgers through photos, programs, sheet music, posters, set designs, scores, audio and video and other memorabilia. Free. 11am-5pm Tue--5at. (open till 7pm Wed.). Veterans Bidg., 401 Van Ness Ave., 4th floor. Info: 255-4800; www.sfpalm.org

#### **Bayfront Theatre**

"Viva Variety 24," hosted by Steve Murray, a benefit for the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center (www.apiweliness center (www.api-wellness.org). Featuring comics Scott Capurro and Karen Ripley, bubble artist Sterling Johnson, perfor-mance diva Varla Jean Mer-man (the illegitimate lovechild of Ethel Merman and Ernest Rozenina) musiand Ernest Borgnine), musicians Deborah Pardes and The Tami Show, among other guests. \$20. 8pm. B350, Fort Mason Center. Tix/info: 863-0741, ext. #2. www.makeit-

#### 'Dining Out for Life'

Dine at any participating San Francisco restaurant tonight and 25 percent of your food bill will go to benefit the HIV prevention programs of the Stop AIDS Project. A great way to do your part. For a complete list of restaurants, phone 575-0150, ext. 260, or surf www.diningoutforlifesf.com

## New Leaf @ Teatro ZinZanni, Pier 29

New Leaf's Annual Fundrais-ing Gala, featuring Olympia Dukakis, Bruce Vilanch and Teatro ZinZanni, honoring The National Center for Lesbian Rights and Sharon Smith, Lance Henderson of the SF AIDS Foundation, and The San Francisco Foundation. The event will take place in the splendid antique spiegeltent, Le Palais Nostalgique. Fine food by Taste, wine and cock-tails, a silent auction, and a lively cabaret. New Leaf: Ser-vices For Dur Community ex-ists to help LGBTQQ individu-als and families of all ages lead healthy and connected Rights and Sharon Smith, lead healthy and connected lives. 6-9pm. Tix/info: Brenda Laribee, Director of Develop-ment at 255-1767

Ploughound are relatively new to San Francisco's always-bubbling-under gay rock scene, but their sharp, power-pop rock sound should have them primed to explode on a modern-rock radio station near you - at least if there was any justice in the world. Imagine Weezer hanging out



The boys of Ploughound - Tommy, Jeff, Duane, Allan - play at Kimo's. See Wednesday.

at the Hole In The Wall or the Eagle, and they might sound something like Ploughound. something like Ploughound. Check them out, along with Watson Family, ing, and Bizarre Love Triangle. 9 pm. 1351 Polk at Pine. Info: 885-4535; www.ploughound.com

#### Yerba Buena Center

Yerba Buena General for the Arts Forum The Paul Dresher Ensemble presents the Bay Area pre-ies of "Sound Stage," a The Paul Dresher Ensemble presents the Bay Area premiere of "Sound Stage," a new work exploring the means and meaning of music making. Conceived and composed by Paul Dresher, with direction and text by Rinde Eckert. Performed by Dresher and the members of the Minneapolisbased new music ensemble Zeitgeist. The visual centerpiece of the work, designed and constructed by Dresher and Daniel Schmidt, is a 17 1/2 foot rolling A-frame with two 17-food pendulums swinging on either side. Every surface creates sound; the performers move within and without, playing a variety of new and traditional instruments. At the end of the 80-minute show, the audience gets to come on stage to explore the instruments and create impromptu music. \$20 (\$16 students/seniors). 8pm. Thru April 28. 701 Mission St. Tipsinfo: 978-2787; www.dresherensemble.org; www.yerbabuenaarts.org

## nu

HMI @ The Center Harvey Milk Institute Arts & Lecture Series presents a joint

appearance by photographers Tee A. Corinne & Laurie Toby Edison showing slides and dis-cussing their work. Corinne will focus on the release of her new book, Intimacies, featur-ing her photographs, as well as essays by herself and Tam-sin Wilton, with an introduc-tion by Jonathan D. Katz, Ph.D. Edison will show pho-tographs from her recently Ph.D. Edison will show photographs from her recently completed (and not yet published) Familiar Men: A Book of Nudes, as well as her acclaimed Women En Large: Images of Fat Nudes. HMI Course # 2002A-L0-4. \$10 - \$25 sliding. 7:30 pm SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St (at Octavia). Tix: 865.5633; www.harveymilk.org.

#### The Poetry Center,

The Poetry Center, SFSU
The Poetry Center presents Kevin Killian and Kevin Davies. Selecting Davies' book Comp. (Edge books, 2000) for the latest Poetry Center Book Award, Killian recognized "a book of great passion and intelligence, entwined together like the two creepy snakes of the caduceus. . . . He's the Stanley Kubrick of poetry." Davies was born and raised on Vancouver Island and has lived in NYC since 1992. Killian's own first full-length book of poetry, Argento Series (Krupskaya books), is a chronicle of loss in the AIDS era inspired by Italian horror film maker Dario Argento. Among his many other credits are the novels Shy and Arctic Summer. Free. 4:30pm. Humanites Bldg., Rm. 512, SF State University. Info: 338-2227.



Country-western dancers kick up their heels at Sundance Saloon. See Sunday.

#### A Different Light Bookstore

Noelle Alumit discusses Letters to Montgomery Clift. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. Info: 431-0891.

# Books Inc., Castro

Lori Selke hosts an all-star reading of the Lambda Award finalist, Tough Girls: Down and Dirty Dyke Erotica. Free. 7:30pm. 2275 Market St. (btwn Noe & Sanchez). Info: Patsy Hatt, 864-6777.

#### **EXIT** on Taylor

EXIT on Taylor
Transit presents "As One,"
with choreography by M.
Koob and an original score by
SF composer Randy Odell. A
multigenerational cast of ten
dancers brings to life this ath-letic meditation on cultural
inclusion. The company's
artistic heritage is rooted in
German Fixnessionist dance. artistic nerritage is rooted in German Expressionist dance. \$15 (\$10 children under 12). 8pm. Thu.-Sat., April 18-20 & 25-27, 277 Taylor 5t. (at Eddy). Tix/info: 273-5890; www.transitdance.com

#### Eagle Tavern

"Thursday Night Live" pre-sents the live bands Fabulous Disaster, Amscray and Green-dale High. Headliners Fabudale High. Headliners Fabu-lous Disaster's sordid history involves tattoos, bondage, motorcycles, pills and seedy bars frequented by bike mes-sengers. Their involvement in the SF fetish scene and their biker/pill popper lifestyle show through on their new snow through on their new album, including the soon-to-be-famous SF anthem, "Rich Bitches in Volvos Piss Me Off." 9pm. 398 12th St. (at Harrison). Info: 626-0880

#### The Pendulum

"Alley Catz," the weekly club night for women, invites you to an "After-Taxes Relief Party," an "After-Taxes Relief Party," with DJs rocking the house with hip-hop, R&B, Deep House, Dancehall and more. Featuring "The Tax Woman Cometh" Exotic Floor Show, and fine feline finger foods. Happy hour till 10pm. No cover. 6pm-2am. 4146 18th St. (at Collingwood). Info: 863-4441.

#### WANNA SUBMIT?

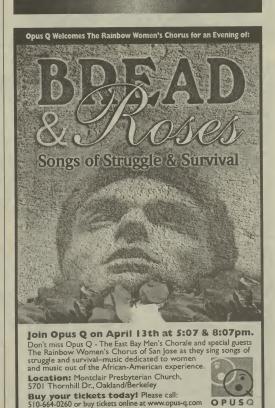
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# The sex nominees are...

Who'll take home a Golden Dildeaux?

by Mister Marcus

he nominees for The Gold-en Dildeaux Awards 2002, the world's only sex honors, were announced by The Golden Gate Guards MC last week, and Gate Guards MC last week, and this sexy group make all those Academy Awards nominees look bad, bad, bad! Where the Holly-wood crowd rely on makeup artists and costumers to make an impression, the Golden Dildeaux Award paminees impress through Award nominees impress through

Award nominees impress through sheer sexual prowess!

The final day for voting will be Saturday, April 13, and you can cast ballots till midnight that night. You can still obtain the \$1 ballots at Daddy's, Marlena's, the Eagle, the Edge, the Powerhouse, Mr. Lee Ona's and at the Turf Club in Hayward. As I always say (and as they always do in Chicago), vote early and often!

The awards ceremony will take place on Saturday night, April 20 in the Eagle Tavern patio.

As a side note, know that for

As a side note, know that for the fourth year in a row, leather-man Ray Tilton has been nominated for the Paper Wedding Dress Award. My spies tell me he's planning to make a splashy entrance with a huge entourage. This will be a "photo opportunity' event, so don't miss it.

The proceeds from the beer/soda bust that evening will go to the Emergency

Fund.
Will Ralph Petersen show up? Make a bet?

And now, without further ado the judging categories and nominees for The Golden Dildeaux Awards 2002 are:

Punchboard Award: Niq Shelby, Jake Schwartz, Eric Weinman.

Top of the Year: Donna Sachet, "Sarge", Andre English, Richard Quintet, Randy Wright.

Golden Globes Award "Jonathan", Michael Schaeffer, Michael Scholl, Den Calkins.

Nature Boy Award: Patti La-



It was a tie for the Mr. September 2003 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, April 4 at the Powerhouse, with the honors going to Todd Holt, left, and Didier Carnagnolle. Mr. October 2003 will be chosen on Thursday, April 18.

Belle, "Berlin", Bob Larrabee. Golden Arm Award: Remi Collette, J.J. Ferra, Tom Rodgers,

Alan Selby. Paper Wedding Dress: Ray Tilton, David Barberi, Mario Torrigino, Frank Vasconcel-los.

Voyeur of the Year: Dave Barker, Bob Brunson, Don Thompson, Keith Truitt.

Sliver Lips Award: Andy Anderson, Mr. Marcus, Ronnie Tur-

Leap Frog Award: Phil D'Amato, Steve Anderson, Omar Moseley.

**Cob Web Award**: Briggs Hawley, "Mauricio", "Mama", Karl Schuck.

Best Performances in a 3-**Way**: Steve Gaynes, Richard & Joe; "Bill and Ralph", Glennon Sutter & Gavin Middleton.

Prince of Piss: Bill Hollabaugh, Omar Kubian, Alden Spafford, Werner Tillinger.

Tea Room Commando: Tom Galante, Fred Lewis, Don "Ho"

The Divine Miss "M" Award: 'Blanche", Lance Britton, Peter Fiske

The Size Queen Award: Kristy Cruise, Barbie LaChoy, Tiger Lily.

Best Male Performance by a Female Impersonator: "Queen Gary", Remi Collette, Donna Sachet, "Snatch".

Best Female Performance by a Male Impersonator: KC Dare, Bianca Vigil, Suzie Wong, "Queen" Gary.

Cocksucker of the Year: "Mar-lena", Richard Milatt, Don Mc-

The Dick of Death Award: Phil Garabedian, Stacey Johnson, Jimmy Stemple, Louie Toro.

Pushy Bottom Award: Boy Andrew, Boy Hobbit, Pushy Phillis, "Unicorn" Escobeda.

Boot Licker Award: Remi Colette, "Driller", Kevin Kropp.

next page ▶

#### EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Leather

Friday, April 12

Uniform night at the Loading Dock, hosted by the California B&B Corps, from 9pm until closing. Uniform mavens galore. Be there.

Saturday, April 13

The Phoenix Uniform Club celebrates its 25th an-niversary tonight at Most Holy Redeemer Church, from 1930 to 2230, by invite or wearing your club overlay. Congratulations to a real community sup-

Mr. Russian River Eagle Leather contest up in

Mr. Russian River Eagle Leather contest up in Guerneville (no details at my deadline).

Final day of voting for Golden Dildeaux Awards at several locations (see column above), your last chance to pick your favorites prior to the award presentations on Saturday, April 20 at the Eagle.

Castlebar's Cock Party, with doors open 2100 to 2330. Cigar, dungeon and wrestling play and it's hot hard & friendly Check out

www.castlebar.com/cock.htm

Sunday, April 14

4th Anniversary party of Sundance Saloon at 174 King St., with dance instructions from 1800 to 1930, and the party goes until 2300. Best of all, it's totally free! Be there to help celebrate another

"A Last Drummer" party at Daddy's, honoring all former Northern California Drummers and Boys, from 1600 to 2000, with a \$7 beers/soda

bust to benefit AEF and Central YMCA Youth &

Seniors Programs. Satyr's MC of Los Angeles beer/soda bust at the Eagle, from 1500-1800. Pegasus MOC run to Bodega Bay.

Monday, April 15

National Coalition for Sexual Freedom Foundation presents a workshop at the Women's Bldg. from 1900-2130, featuring Andrew Park expounding on sex and legal consent. Info: (202) 955-0040.

Wednesday, April 17 Skivvy night at 933 Harrison with Underwear Buddies gathering. Clothes check mandatory. Doors open 2100-2300. Call 777-HEAD,

Thursday, April 18

Mr. October 2003 will be chosen at the Power-house for the Bare Chest Calendar. Judging: Jim Gatteau, Gary Virginia, Bob Goldfarb.

Weekend, April 19-21

Mr. Sooner State Leather will be chosen at "Tribal Fire" weekend in Oklahoma City. Workshops, vendors, seminars with a \$150 fee, and tour the new Oklahoma City National Memorial. Check www.tribalfireokc.com

The Regiment of Black & Tans in Los Angeles hold their annual "Maneuvers 2002" with a \$65 tab for all events, For info: surf www.blackandtans.org or call (310) 967-3980.

# Full swagger

by John F. Karr

ou can forget that "kinder, gentler America" crap. Michael Brandon's in charge now, and he's gonna fuck your

If achievement can be mea If achievement can be measured on a phallometric scale, Brandon has always been a Hall of Famer: the talented monster cock he calls, not too surprisingly, Monster, has been the linchpin of a surprisingly long 13-year career in porn. Brandon's made nearly 70 videos ties his delivery and the surprise his de To videos since his debut in 1987. That's quite a corpus of work, as well as a corpus of cockus. But his career has attained a freshly imperative focus as he's blossomed

perative focus as he's blossomed into a 30something. He's at the height of his powers as a sexuality, which the industry recognized at last month's AVN Awards by voting him Performer of the Year. And after years of knocking around minor companies, he's afforded himself a suitable performing as well as a new creing as well as a new cre ative plat-form by Karrnal Knowledge

aligning himself

with Raging Stallion Studios. He gives savagely torrid performances in RS' Terms of Endowment and Resort to Anything, and has become the first RS exclusive to be granted producer status. Though RS head wiz Chris Ward still directs and edits, Brandon's still directs and edits, Brandon's co-producer credit has allowed the writing, directing, casting and producing of the movies to be saturated with his influence and full-swagger sexuality. They've also been filmed in Sexascope, Raging Stallion's unique widescreen format that brings greater clarity and presence to the picture.

Brandon shows off his jack-hammering, deep-plunging mas-

Brandon shows off his jack-hammering, deep-plunging mastery in three scenes of *Terms* of *Endowment*. There's an equally effective interlude, for debuting all-American boyslut Jack Ryan with Michael Soldier, but it's basically all Brandon's show. The movie starts off, *Powl*, without credits, and only a couple of words of dialogue. Michael and his lover Tom Shannon are spending "a piggypiggy weekend" at home. That means Brandon's possessed by his cock for two days of slam-fuck frenzy. Shannon, making his debut in mainstream porn, plays Best Supporting Bruiser here. He's



got a pugilist's mug, a marine sergeant's build, and a beer can cock atop solid balls. Oh, and

pp solid balls. Oh, and pinch-me-up nipples that pop up from his chest. You gotta be a man to withstand Brandon's pummeling, and Shannon fits the bill. In one fabulous must-freeze fabulous must-freeze frame, his eyes splooge from their sockets

sharp cry whooshes from his mouth as Brandon gives him a severe lunge from the rear. Brandon shows no mercy, and ain't that a merciful

In the hot tub, Brandon sensa-In the hot tub, Brandon sensa-tionally skewers sleek newcomer Sky Donovan — and gets screwed in return, his floppin' cock caus-ing tsunamis as Sky pumps. Back indoors, svelte Nate Summers ofindoors, svelte Nate Summers of-fers some solo JO, and, when Brandon enters, proves he can get as much down his throat as he took up his ass in that splendid dildo solo in RS' Sexpack 4. The scene becomes a threeway when Shannon arrives, and swells into a quartet as Donovan checks in. This finale delivers well over a half-hour of hardworking man-sex. And those who order the mail order version directly from RS get an additional 25 minutes in which everyone present fists Summers
— who even takes a foot, up to
the ankle!

#### Crew break

Resort to Anything, the first of Brandon's Monster Bang imprint, is an even hotter lava flow of lasciviousness. It's even more focused, without the change of subject of Terms' fisting, and has, in



qué when the star's offscreen. The movie is set in a lush backyard garden, where Brandon's display of big meat inveigles the neigh-boring construction crew over for a little sex. This tight set-up dispenses with plot and dialogue, and a sexy flow is maintained with and a sexy flow is maintained with dissolves replacing the majority of editing cuts. Finally, Brandon's creative input assures that the whole thing is seen from a particularly Brandon POV. Which means giant cock worship and stungfying analystic faction.

stupefying anal satisfaction.

The first scene is a distinct highpoint: it's Dylan Reece's farewell to porn. The boyish bottom has never looked more mantom has never looked more mannish, and he sucks Brandon's cockas if trying to wear it down several inches. Brandon delivers nearly unendurable foreplay by poking into Reece's asshole with his cockhead, which, to a lesser mortal than Brandon, would surely lead to barebacking. This fuse-blowing foreplay takes self-control, but these talented boys got it. Next, there's real poetry in motion when Brandon fucks Reece, and they grind and buck as one. And then, suddenly, Reece is topping Brandon, and doing a nifty job of it.

it.
Second-billed players Michael
Vista and Matt Sizemore nearly
upstage the stars during their interlude, and are joined by Brandon and Sky Donovan for a pulverizing quartet finale. With vibrant photography and skilled
editing, complemented by JD
Slater's edgy, suggestive music, Resort to Anything is the way porn
should be made. It's concentrated
sex, with a savory amount of foresex, with a savory amount of fore-play. And then it throws in Reece's career-topping farewell. Way to go, Mr. Brandon: *Monster Bang*, indeed. ▼

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# THE WALL SALOUN MONDAY APRIL 15 5pm 'til 2am cheep booze! pig meat! incantations





#### Mister Marcus

previous page

Golden Boy Award: Tom Basch, Eric Bernier, Bob Brunson.

#### In other worlds:

The fun and fundraising continues. "Mama's" recent Breast Cancer Banquet garnered some \$8,000 for the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund, and the Easter Basket Auction at Daddy's for Stop AIDS Project amounted to some \$1,200.

some \$1,200.

Mr. Powerhouse Leather
Adam Heller's Black & Blue Party
Last Friday, April saw a Standing
Room Only crowd, with Joe Gallagher clipping hair (for AEF),
Off-Ramp Leathers with a shop,
John Bernal bootblacking, Donna
Sachet impersonating Marlena
Dietrich (cigarette holder & all)
sitting on the bar warbling, and a
lot of leather title holders in at-

tendance, including some young,

tendance, including some young, new faces.

In Tampa, Florida, Tom Kiple (also owner of the Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg) announced the opening of the Tampa Eagle Compound in Tampa on East Grand Ave. The new venue features a barber and bootblack shop, a small mall and Mandances on Saturdays and Sundays, plus a leather shop — all on river frontage. Check it out on your next trip to Florida.

And finally, Ingu Yun, the driving force behind the Sundance Saloon C/W parties, announced that Sundance parties will move to a new location, Space 550, effective on July 7. The address is at 550 Barneveld near Bayshore and Industrial, right behind the former Goodman's Lumber Site.

mer Goodman's Lumber Site. Ingu is thankful for all your sup-port, and especially to Audrey Joseph for space at the 174 King Street for the last four years.



Udo Reichelt of Landau, Germany was chosen Mr. Leather Germany 2002, and will be among the Class of 2002 at IML in Chicago on Memorial Day Weekend.



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#### PARTING **GLANCES**

Robert: Let's Touch Again!
We met and had a body, heart and soul connection at Blow Buddies on June 21. Our cars got mixed up. I want your great body, moustache and mind. Tony. @ 71645

Handsome Asian In Gap Cap 3/9 We exchanged glances and smiles going out at the Muni and on Van Ness bus. I was too shy to give my number. Please give me a call. © 71646

Tony- Buena Vista Park- 9/11
Tony- met you at Buena Vista Park
on 9/11 about 4pm. I really like the
way you kissed- and your eyes- and
would love to see you again. Steve.

☑ 71647

Caf'e Flore 3/9 Saturday 8:30pm You: dark hair brown eyes. Me: short hair blue eyes. You looked right past my eyes I was going to say hi- but your friend arrived. Date? 20 71648

Jaimie, It's Me Albert!
Do you remember me? We met when
you were living on Haight Street.
Contact me, been thinking about you.

71649

Rick from South Dakato
Call your new hairdresser. I didn't get
your phone number. 22 71661

#### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Asian Male 40
Poz 5'4", 122lbs. companionship, dining out, travel, fun times. Seek W/L/B, same or older. Enjoying life. 271650

Handsome Masc. Cowboy 4 Masc. Easygoing, goodhearted, nice, masculine, muscular, intelligent, affection-date seeks masculine leanish to pman with facial hair, thick moustache/hairy A+ 4 friendship or possibly more. 120 71651

Nice Jewish Boy W/Big Shtick Speak softly but carry a big shtick! 43 look 55, 61", 182#, brygr, clean shaven, marketing executive, own flat, home cooked meals, naked mas-sage, small hotels, art, swim, hike, hope for wonderful life. № 71652

Santa Rosa Native SWM, 5'10", 170#, 41, Redhead, ex-navy, owns mobile home. Enjoys drumming, the outdoors, talk radio. Seeks Female. 12 71662

Slim Asian or Caucasian 40-60 Quality GWM, 5'9", 130#, 63(looks 5), a staractive, caring, and healthy. We are HIV negative, enjoy J0, and want a lifetime of loving, caring, sharing, and living together. 

☑ 71663

Self-Aware and Sensitive to the needs of others. I am looking for a partner. I am a 54yo GBM, practical and romantic. I am intelligent, sexually bottom. Eclectic interests. I like learning and experiencing. \$\mathbb{Q}\$

~Asian~ Boyfriend wanted for fun and friend-ship. Hiking, camping, dinners and...? By retired GWM. № 71665

Asian Seeks Date Goodlooking, cleancut masculine GAM 30, 5'8, slim boy next door with nice personality seeks similar goodlooking, masculine cleancut GWM 40 or younger for friendship, dating etc. \$2 71666

Seek Uncut Richmond District
W/cock for sucking. Be smooth, light
hairy, clean shaven, not bald or
pierced. Be nice easy going for
w/husky goodlooking Construction
worker with sucking fantasy, possible
anal action. 92 71679

Positive on Peninsula 43 years old GWM, 6'2", 205#, Blond, Blue, Goatee. Enjoys walks on the beach, movies, time at home, tennis. Looking for LTR with non-smoker, must have a sense of humor. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71667

How About A Little Bump & Grind GBM prof. top 50 seeking GWM bottom 48-60yrs for good hot sex on an ocassional or on going basis. Also open to some type of relationship but horny for now. Smk, drink, and aroma all good. Prefer you be somewhat stocky built, enjoy sexy underwear and mudity. No heavy beards. ≦2 71677

GWM Btm HIV-Seeks top bld/blu med no smoke, no drinker 38-50 years old. № 71678

Need One Small Cock To Suck Under 6" w/or Japan, China, Malaysia, S.E Asia, under 40 Thai-land A+. May accept anal entry. Be smooth or little hair clean shaven a must long term relationship. **22** 71680

#### SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Hot 31 Yo WM Shaved-Head Seeking in-shape WM, under 35, for hot sex, possibly relationship, blond(ish), uncut, unshaved public hair, Jewish, all a hard-on plus. 12 71653

Magic Hands
I give long, slow, intense, erotic massages. My table, my hands, my place, vour pleasure. No format training. Bi's and straights+. Very discreet, versatile and safe. No reciprocation required. 

271654

White Ass For Latino Cock Seeking Latino tops to fuck my ass-hole while I'm on my stomach. Me: White, mature, hairy, stocky, talented ass. You: Latino top HIV- into ass fucking. 22 71655

I Need Be FF CBT SM
By experienced slow hands, I am also a very good cocksucker, with a little ass. Live near Sacramento. 

↑ 1656

Service On Regular Basis GWM, 49, 5'11", 145lbs, top, slim, in-shape, loves to get rimmed & fuck, into all races, 30-50y in-shape or slim bottoms, no fats, fems or scat. HIV+ only. © 71657

Shut up and Ride WM 37, 5'10", 195# blond, blue muscular wants goodlooking mascu-line men to screw, anytime and any place. 22 71668

Have Nine Inches of Thick Dick to stretch your asshole. Hot top, 6'4", 190#s. Ready to fuck your butt. Minorities welcome. Cocksuckers and rimmers OK. S 71670

Fuck my 2 Hungry Holes Hot/Horny GAM seeks nice delicious cock to fill me up. I'm excellent in bed and always cleaned, ready and lubed. GWM + 12 71671

Mature Man seeks Suck Buddy Inshape WM 6'2", 200#s.hung cut cock, big balls seeks younger guy wh can orally service on a regular basis. № 71673

Alpha Wolf howls For Beta Wolf You on your Knees servicing me. You on all fours with me pumping you. Long and hard. Both sweaty. Both Sated. Both satisfied. 22 71674

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"Hungry Mouth Wanted!"
Italian, 50, 5'7", 160lbs, neg.,
7.5x5", low hangers, seeks aggressive cocksucker with lots of stamina
for long sessions. Aroma A+. 12
71681

Are You Over 65 And Need A BJP Kick back enjoy free beer xxxvideos and oral service from masculine ma-ture WM. You an Asian or WM cut "6" or more. I'm inexperienced but quick learner. No reciprocation. \$2 71682

Looking For Horny Senior Citizen Goodlooking GAM 28, like to watch senior citizen j/o, married is ok. Feel your hot cum splatter on my nice body. Clean shaven only. \$\oldsymbol{2}\$ 71683

• Free Sensual Massage • Strong-handed masculine lean WM 43 provides expert full body experience for trim tight-bodied masculine guys 18 to 45. Any race, smooth or hairy. 120 71684

Oral Expert Seeks Hung Guys
If you want expert oral service call
me. The bigger the better. We can
also watch some excellent videos. 

↑1685

"Love to Kiss?" I Do!
Cute GWM, 30, 6', 180#, very oral, loves foreplay, sucking cock, rimming. Seeking gay man or couple, 25-45, in shape, any race, for hot times. 12 71687

Let's Party!
I'm looking for guys who like three or four ways, or just kick back and jerk-off watching good videos, and have a real fun time. 20 71688

Mulatto Guy Looking for White, Hispanic, and others who are good looking or hung for party, watch videos, jack-off, etc. Call me. 2 71689

Oral Submission
New to bisexuality. Straight mature
WM wants to provide oral service on
a regular basis to Asian or White ma
ture male. No reciprocation wanted.

☑ 71672

Jack-Off Buddies Wanted
I'm seeking guys who are fun, hung
and maybe fairly good looking, for
jack-off suck and do other things. 

↑ 1690

Spank Your Butt Goodlooking topman, 37, 5'11", 170#, works out. Seeks well-built bottom with firm, round butt spank ing. Into role-playing and plowing your ass. 22 71691

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Sub SM BD CBT TT FF WS RIM
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71675

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Are you straight but your girlfriend doesn't like to suck your feet or your ass? She too boring? Let me do it .
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Small Asian Hairless Butt Wanted By GWM, HIV+ top, 48, slim, ISO into yg bottoms for long rimming ses-sions & long fucking action. Be slim, bubble buns, HIV+. Have lizard tongue for perfect ass. @ 71694

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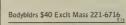




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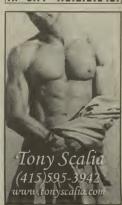
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